



The Gathering of Nations

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CPN's Shane Coker leads Asher High School baseball back to traditional ways

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HOWNIIKAN

Zawbogyagises (September 2013)/Bnakwigises (October 2013)

People of the Fire

A-OK Railroad, Citizen Potawatomi Nation dedicate Iron Horse Bridge

Officials from A-OK Railroad, Citizen Potawatomi Nation and United States Congressman James Lankford gathered to dedicate the Iron Horse Bridge and celebrate an important milestone in the construction of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Iron Horse Industrial Park.

“We owe a debt of gratitude to several people for their help with this project,” said David Donoley, A-OK Railroad. “It’s all about partnerships. A lot of people made this bridge possible and it belongs to a lot of people, but this industrial park is what it’s all about. It will mean economic development and jobs for this area.”



President David Donoley of A-OK Railroad, Representative James Lankford and Chairman John Barrett stand on the recently completed Iron Horse Bridge.



A look North at the recently completed Iron Horse Bridge.

After several years of planning and research, Iron Horse Industrial Park is getting closer to becoming a reality. The engineering is complete for phase one of construction and Arkansas-Oklahoma Railroad has completed restoration of the railroad bridge crossing the North Canadian River.

“The vision for the Iron Horse Industrial Park is to provide a prime industrial location for both tribally-owned businesses and private companies,” said Citizen Potawatomi Nation Chairman John Barrett. “This will further diversify the tribal economy by providing assembly and manufacturing jobs. We are pleased to celebrate this important milestone with A-OK Railroad and look forward to the next phase of this project.”

The industrial park has been in consideration for several years and first saw significant progress when a 2008 independent feasibility study indicated the park was worth pursuing. The feasibility study was followed by a detailed econometric analysis by Professor Joseph Kalt of

Harvard University, which revealed an industrial park would have a significant economic impact on the region.

Those studies served as the basis of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation application for an Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant. Citizen Potawatomi Nation was awarded a \$1 million EDA grant to build infrastructure to support development of the industrial park in 2011.

“This industrial park will create



Chairman Barrett points out the planned site for the Iron Horse Industrial Park to A-OK Railroad President Donoley and Representative James Lankford.

more jobs for the community of Shawnee and other communities along the rail line,” said Dr. Jim Collard, director of planning and economic development, Citizen Potawatomi Nation. “It will also provide additional revenue for the tribe, economic development for the area and further diversify our business portfolio.”

In addition to providing another income source and job opportunities for Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Iron Horse Industrial Park will build a stronger regional economy, enhance environmental sustainability, and improve safety of our nation’s roadways.

“It’s a real privilege to see this progress,” said United States Congressman James Lankford. “This bridge means jobs here and all the way down this line. For the people involved in this, we owe a debt of gratitude from the State of Oklahoma. This bridge was dependent on Iron Horse and Iron Horse was dependent on this bridge. That relationship means a lot to many Oklahomans and this a great example of how tribes and the private sector can work

together.”

The development of the industrial park is critical to the re-opening of the line, which can provide an east-west connection of four major north-south rail corridors to significantly enhance regional



Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Officer receives Medal of Valor

Major Jody Opela recognized for rescue of OHP Pilot Trooper Dennis Dickens

Citizen Potawatomi Nation police officer Major Jody Opela received the Medal of Valor in appreciation of his assistance to Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper Dennis Dickens on July 26.

“I knew God was in control and that I had the support of many law enforcement officers on the ground taking care of Dennis,” said Bridgett Dickens, wife of Trooper Dennis Dickens. “That day you guys changed my life. I am so thankful that you didn’t stop or hesitate and that you saved my husband. Any officer would say that they were just doing their job and you did that well. Thank

you.”

Major Opela demonstrated the highest level of law enforcement professionalism and ran to the aid of Trooper Dickens after his OHP plane crashed while in pursuit of a suspect in Pottawatomie County.

“Major Opela is extremely dedicated to protecting and serving Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Pottawatomie County and his actions on July 26 show that more than ever,” said Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Chief Jim Collard. “He risked his own safety to aid Trooper Dickens as the plane began to catch fire. He

was able to help pull the pilot from the plane and begin to provide first aid. Words are trivial at times like this, so the best we can say is thank you for your service.”

Major Opela, with the help of Deputy Jason Hollasek and David Carpenter, pulled Trooper Dickens from the plane and began to assess his injuries and provide first aid while help was on the way.

“Major Jody Opela is one of our heroes and will certainly be remembered and celebrated for as long as we are here,” said Citizen



Representatives from the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, local law enforcement agencies and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation were on hand at the award ceremony for those who assisted in OHP Trooper Dennis Dickens rescue following a plane crash on July 26.



Mrs. Bridgett Dickens stands with Officer Virgil Bonham, Officer David Childs and Major Jody Opela of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department

Potawatomi Nation Chairman John Barrett. “Officer Opela has exhibited great courage and we thank him for his service.”

Officer Virgil Bonham and Officer David Childs with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department also received the Award of Commendation for their help assisting officers on the scene.

“We did what we had to do and what anyone else would have done,” said Major Opela. “We all play as a team. It doesn’t matter who you work for in this county, we all pull together and get the job done.”

Major Opela has been with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department for 10 years. Opela is one of more than 20 officers that patrol the 900 square mile tribal

jurisdiction, with a focus on tribal property and land. The CPN police department is one of only four police departments serving all of Pottawatomie County. This is the first time the Medal of Valor and Lifesaving award have been given in Citizen Police Department history.

“Really, the instinct kicks in and you just focus on getting him out of harm’s way,” added Opela. “The training kicked in once we were away from the plane and then we started to assess his injuries and provide first aid.”

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Police Department was founded more than two decades ago to protect tribal assets and employees, increase public safety and enhance the general well-being of the community.

Gathering of Nations 2013

Article and Photos by Sharon Hoogstraten

The annual Gathering of Nations reunites the nine Potawatomi Nations / Bands as one Potawatomi Tribe. Each year a different nation hosts the Gathering. The 2013 Gathering of Nations was hosted by the Pokagon Band near Dowagiac, Michigan on land that was purchased in 1833 by Chief Pokagon to insure a place from which Potawatomi could not be removed.

My first foray into the Potawatomi experience (besides reading the How-Ni-Kan) began in 2010 when I started attending Family Reunion Festival in Shawnee, OK. Previously, I enjoyed the concept of being Potawatomi, but never considered taking part in any tribal events. In 2012, I went to the Gathering of Nations hosted by the Nottawaseppi Huron Band in White Pigeon Michigan. At each event I was warmly welcomed and amazed at the generosity of spirit and food. This year was no exception. As I registered at the tent near the parking field, I found myself welcomed, treated to gifts and transported by trolley ride through the beautiful campgrounds to the festival grounds.

Along the way we passed a tall sign post with directions to each Potawatomi Nation. Seeing “Citizen Potawatomi Nation – 860 Miles” pointing southwest assured me I was a welcomed guest of the Pokagon Band. I decided my first move would be to use my food vouchers to get an Indian taco – with the most delicious fry bread. Well-fed, I circled the dance arena to take measure of the situation.

Instead the situation took the measure of me and within the hour I found myself beating a drum and with Linda Capps, Rocky Barrett, Roy and Julia Slavin and many other Citizen Potawatomi, learning a traditional song from Kelli Mosteller, director of the CPN Cultural Heritage Center.

Afternoon drifted toward evening and dancers began to don their regalia and assemble for Grand Entry. Grand Entry is an event,



FireLake Gifts Director Penny Coates proceeds through Grand Entry followed by other CPN members.

ceremonial, serious and yet joyful, that must be experienced to comprehend. The drums in the drum circle reach into the core of your soul. I have never met anyone, Potawatomi or not, who didn’t respond to the call of the drums. The Friday night Grand Entry was highlighted by beautiful weather and light accentuating the magnificent regalia and dance.

Saturday marked another prime August day and my family was treated to gifts of Potawatomi chairs, meal vouchers, T-shirts, trolley rides through the forest and fun. We watched ash basket weaving, the repair of a birch bark canoe, and beading. We admired the traditional handcrafts, baskets and jewelry sold by Potawatomi vendors. Family Dinner served to us by the Pokagon Band was deliciously fresh home cooking with buffalo meat so tasty that I’m still dreaming about it.

After dinner everyone began to

gather for the Saturday Grand Entry. For me, it was a wonderful time of photography, greeting old friends and meeting new ones. My family headed for the bleachers to watch their first Grand Entry and another beautiful night of ceremony and dance. After the smudging ceremony at the east gate, the Entry procession is led by veterans carrying the eagle staffs of each Nation, followed by veterans carrying the flags of each Nation and then by Potawatomi royalty and dancers in regalia. Proceedings were paused when a dancer’s bustle of eagle feathers fell to the ground and had to be recovered according to tradition. Eagle feathers represent the spirit of fallen warriors and once on the ground, their spirits must be lifted back up as well as the feathers. It’s a very

powerful proceeding as veterans are called onto the field to surround the feathers and I was not the only one moved to tears by the gravitas of the occasion.

Once the dancing began, everyone was invited to participate and my mother and I headed into the arena with my teenaged nieces who had earlier declared it was not for them...but as I said, it’s irresistible. By the last dance, showered with even more gifts, they were proud Potawatomi.

Sharon Hoogstraten resides in Chicago. She is a professional photographer and the mother of two Citizen Potawatomi. For the past four years she has been creating photographic portraits of Potawatomi regalia in modern times.



CPN Cultural Heritage Center Director Dr. Kelly Mosteller points the way home for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.



CPN Language Teacher Randy Schlachtun competes in the dance contest at the CPN Gathering of Nations.



CPN member Michael Bourbonais (right) poses with a fellow Potawatomi ahead of Grand Entry.



Legislators Jon Boursaw, Roy Slavin and David Barrett stand with CPN Veterans Organization Commander Daryl Talbot ahead of Grand Entry.



Chairman Barrett and Vice Chairman Capps lead the CPN delegation into Grand Entry at the 2013 Gathering of Nations. Following behind are CPN Legislators Eva Marie Carney, Randy Payne and Bob Whistler.



Chairman Barrett, CPN Cultural Heritage Center Director Kelly Mosteller and Legislator Bob Whistler lead CPN members in a traditional Potawatomi song.

A Gathering Perspective

By Michael Bourbonnais

Bozho n’Nikanek! – Greetings my friends! The 2013 Gathering of the Potawatomi Nations is a celebration of language, culture, tradition, family, reconnecting with tribal members, food, and much more. It is a gathering to share experiences, knowledge, exchange of ideas, and make new friends and connections.

This year’s annual gathering was hosted by the proud and progressive Pokegnek Bodewadnik - Pokagon Band of Potawatomi in Dowagiac, Michigan. The Pokagon Band became federally reaffirmed (federally recognized) in 1994.

This was my first gathering. I am grateful to Rande Payne, Citizen Potawatomi Nation District 6 Legislator, who gifted me an opportunity to attend this year’s gathering. Igwien Rande.

Michigan this time of year is beautiful with blue skies, clean air, pretty lakes, and rivers.

Likewise, the Pokagon properties are green and lush, shaded by tall trees, and surrounded by picturesque fields of corn and soy beans. Fireflies (lightning bugs) play in the evenings. Michigan is beautiful country this time of year.

Two primary takeaways stand out: (1) relationships, and (2) an overall

sense of acceptance, respect and unity.

Rande and I attended the Potawatomi language conference held at Dowagiac Middle School.

Among other things, the language conference provided opportunity to reconnect with tribal members: Sam Navarre, Randy Schlachtun and Justin Neely to name a few. Those three men have influenced and inspired me in a good way to be a more knowledgeable and, I think better, Potawatomi man. They are assets to CPN and have many friends throughout Potawatomi country.

Similarly, the language conference provided opportunity to make additional friends.

One such new friend is Jimmy, a member of the Pokagon Band.

One afternoon Jimmy was giving me a one-on-one language lesson. At one point I asked “why” something was said a certain way in Potawatomi. Jimmy responded with a simple teaching an Elder taught him. That is do not always ask your teacher or Elder “why.” Do not put your teacher on the spot. Our language is ancient. The teacher may not know why. The teacher was gracious to answer



my question. Leave it at that. Be thankful. That is good medicine for all Potawatomi.

As we learn our language, we learn about our culture as well.

On Wednesday, the language conference moved to one of the Pokagon Band’s serene properties – a place called Gage Lake.

I met Andy Jackson, “cultural specialist “of the Pokagon Band. Andy intimated to me that the Elders gave Gage Lake a sacred Indian name. So sacred it cannot be written.

All weekend Andy shared with Rande and me all she knew about whatever cultural questions we asked.

Later in the weekend, Andy gifted Rande and me with tobacco seeds and another special gift. The seeds will start us growing our own tobacco. The gift we use in special prayer situations. Migwetch Andy.

Andy introduced me to Wally “the King” fire starter. Wally is from the Hannahville Indian Community, Band of Potawatomi. Andy explained that Wally has been starting and tending gathering

fires for 19 years. He used to start the fire and tend it the four days and three nights of gathering, never leaving the fire. However, these days, Wally is more wise than most. The Pokagon band provided him a comfortable room to rest during the nights. Protégés now tend the fire overnight until Wally returns.

On Wednesday, the language conference culminated with a traditional feast at the Pokagon’s Rogers Lake gathering grounds. The feast entrees and dishes were prepared in Pokagon Band members’ homes. We enjoyed delicious venison, sweet meat, wild rice, fish, fry-bread, blueberry pie, strawberries, and other delicious foods.

There, I met Bob Moody and his beautiful and gracious wife, Beth Earl-Jones Moody. Bob is Vice Chairperson of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and once served as tribal chairperson of the band.

This meeting of Bob was most influential. Over the next few days, Bob, Beth and I crossed paths many times. As our meetings numbered, they began to feel more like reunions to me. Bob and I talked about many things and became friends. Later,

I learned how stunningly beautiful the couple are in their pow wow dance regalia. We have continued our relationship since the gathering.

Thursday morning, I hooked up with the CPN camp. CPN staff pulled two large camping trailers up from Shawnee. CPN supplied us with ample clean, cold water, pop, snacks and a shady, comfortable environment to relax and enjoy time with tribal citizens and friends.

Friday afternoon Chairman Barrett and Vice Chairperson Capps prepared corn that the Chairman picked-up in Arkansas. The chairman melted butter in large bowls. We rolled our corn in butter, salted it up, and ate till our hearts content. Migwetch!

Friday evening was pow wow! Pow wow is one of my favorite traditional activities. Great-great grandmother Mary Ann (Anderson) Bourbonnais wrote in her journal she loved to dance every evening. Maybe I get my desire to dance from her. But this evening I was blessed to dance on the land Creator originally gave Potawatomi. I dance to honor my ancestors, to represent Nishnabek, and for those yet to come.

Saturday morning I attended hand drum making class. Jason and his grandfather from the Pokagon Band led the class and provided all the materials. They also taught us that the drum is not a “toy.” It is to be treated like grandmother.

Saturday afternoon Dr. Kelli Mosteller, Jason Greenwalt and I enjoyed traditional feast! The Prairie Band supplied tasty Buffalo and wild rice. There was fish, chicken, sweet meat, fry-bread, blueberry turnover, strawberries, and other tasty treats to eat. Elders eat first!

After feast was pow wow time! I danced until I was out of breath. Then I danced some more. I did not want the good times to end.

In closing, God has blessed our Potawatomi nations with visionary and innovative leaders who love their people. They are governing in a good way. Our leaders are leading our nations into phenomenal economic prosperity and now more commonly culturally. We are growing in respect of our traditions, our language, returning to our fires, our drums, and practices. Potawatomi are returning to ways that make us a united and influential people of success and celebration. Indeed, they are giving us reason to be proud to be Potawatomi.

For 2014, the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi, Gun Lake Tribe (federally recognized 1998) will host the gathering. The nation is near Grand Rapids, MI. Hope to see you there.

I am excited about the future of Bodewadnik Nishnabek, and so should you!

Bama mine ngoji



Language with Justin

By Justin Neely, CPN Language Director

The 19th annual Potawatomi Gathering and Language Conference are in the books. The language conference went well. We listened to a presentation by Stewart King about breaking words apart while I presented a story with a picture book using immersion teaching. The Prairie Band Language Department even treated us to a performance of “The Wizard of Oz” in our native language.



Pounding the black ash.

The Gathering itself had a number of cultural activities

such as hand drum and black ash basket making and an opportunity to work on refurbishing a birch bark canoe. The best part of the event, I find, is the chance to sit down and just chat with old friends and make new ones. One really feels a sense of a larger Potawatomi community. I was able to sit down and have a number of conversations in the Potawatomi language. Perhaps a high lite for me was talking for a few minutes in Potawatomi with Billy Daniels Jr. This is an opportunity for members of the CPN Language Department speak Potawatomi. Like they say, if you don’t use it you lose it. Plus, it’s important to hear the language as well as being able to speak it. It’s a different skill all together.

Back here at home this month, we are starting a fresh set of beginner classes at the Cultural Heritage Center from 5:00-6:00p.m. every Monday. Don’t worry if you have never taken a language course or if you haven’t been in a class for a long time. This is a very laid back class and it really goes at the pace the students can handle. Even if you miss the first

couple of classes, you will be able to jump in and we will catch you up to pace. We also started back our conversational Potawatomi class on Thursdays from 3:30-5:00p.m. This class is all about working on our listening and conversation skills in the language. It’s important to hear the language and get used to using it. No matter your experience you can join this class as well.

Our online classes are continuing. Sam Navarre teaches a beginner Potawatomi Class from 7:00-8:00p.m. CST on Tuesdays and 8:00-9:00p.m. CST Wednesdays. I am also starting an intermediate class every other Thursday at 6:30-7:30p.m. beginning August 29.

We hope you will take one of these opportunities to check out a class. Remember, this is your language. Our language is one thing which defines us, and along with our stories, songs, art, dance, blood and history are what define us as a people. The language is the thread that ties it all together.



The folks with their completed black ash baskets.

Also make sure you check out the many resources available online at www.potawatomi.org/lang

We have a conversational book online, a dictionary with 5200 words and over 600 audio files, a number of kids songs, flash cards, a variety of Powerpoint lessons, and games such as a Tetris. The heritage center has a site www.potawatomiheritage.org which also has a number of cultural stories in the language and many more tools.

Some other websites you may want to check out include www.fc-potawatomi.com/culture-and-history

This site has Jim Thunders Book I, II, and III online with audio files. These books are one of the first tools I used in learning the language. Also www.potawatomilanguage.org has a number of language resources on their site.

Migwetch (Thanks)

I hope you will take this opportunity to learn your language.

Indian Child Welfare program aims to strengthen families

Cherokee Nation member Laurie Clark first began working for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in 2007, when she began as an intern. Six years later, she is ICW Supervisor and oversees case managers in the Indian Child Welfare Department along with her own personal caseload, which accounts for around 60 Potawatomi youth across the nation.

She initially became interested in the Native American child welfare because of her experiences as a foster parent for the Cherokee Nation. A friend of her young children was dropped off one day by an absent mother, and Clark found herself helping get the child in touch with the tribe’s child welfare department. Though he went on to stay with a family member, a few months later she received a call from the Cherokee Nation’s child welfare office asking if she’d be interested in serving as a foster parent for two siblings for a couple of months.

“It turned into three kids and four years, but those experiences taught me a lot about the

system,” said Clark. “I thought back to that first instance where the mom dropped her kid off, and figured if I could have helped her out by getting her services she and her son needed, it would have been better for everyone involved. I was frustrated by the system, and that is why I decided to go to college and get my degree in social work.”

According to the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, the Indian Child Welfare Department’s goal is to "protect the best interests of Indian children and to promote the stability and security of Indian tribes and families." For case managers like Clark, this means monitoring both state and tribal child welfare cases across the country and she is adamant that the department’s goal is family preservation.

“Most of the time, we do not remove children from the home. Our goal is to assess what the family needs and then provide



Laurie Clark.

those services to them,” she explained. “We want to get these families the support to keep the children in the home, because ultimately, removing a child is devastating to the family for generations.”

A large part of ICW’s work is informing parents and guardians of the services available to them. If a family hasn’t had experience in utilizing the services provided by the Tribe, State and many charities the application process can be daunting. Clark also oversees foster care and adoption of Potawatomi children in need of a safe home environment. In

addition to helping place youth into Potawatomi and other-tribal foster homes, the department provides adoption crisis services for adoptive families.

“We don’t just place a child in a foster home and leave it at that,” said Clark. “Our case workers continually check in with families to ensure the transition

is going smoothly. The last thing you want to do in such a stressful time is leave adoptive parents or foster children feeling like they are alone.”

ICW caseworkers like Clark take on some of the toughest tasks Citizen Potawatomi Nation employees will face, and many of them are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. However, for all the stress she faces in her day-to-day experiences, Clark focuses on the positives.

“We work hard to keep families together, and we tell those we have dealt with in the past to

come to us if they need help. We say, ‘Don’t let it get to the point it was at before. If you’re having problems, just come in and we will help you’.”

For the large number of cases they oversee, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s ICW is largely successful at its difficult job, a result Clark credits with ICW workers ability to work together as a team and its structure and approach to child welfare.

“We have an awesome program here. We work as a team to preserve the Native American family. There is more energy put into strengthening families than on removals by our staff. The program’s success comes from our flexibility as a Tribal-run program that allows us to deal with each case on an individual basis.

If you would like more information on CPN’s children and family services, please visit the FireLodge Children and Family Services website or call either 405-878-4831 or (1) 800-880-9880.

CPN’s Shane Coker leads Asher High School baseball back to traditional ways

The storied baseball program at Asher High School is known throughout the state by many coaches, regardless of the size of their school. Its 46 state championships in fall and spring baseball are a total that will be difficult for any other program to recreate. This isn’t to mention its holding the state record of 30 consecutive state tournament appearances. Asher, which is nestled in south Pottawatomie County at the very southern edge of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s original allotment, has been under the stewardship of tribal member Shane Coker since 2005.

Coker, an alumnus and a descendent of the Curly family, came back to his hometown to take over a program that was, considering the team’s rich history, in need of a revival.

“Times have changed a bit in terms of the number of kids competing in baseball compared to when I was playing, but it was my hometown and the program that taught me how to deal with the challenges of life,” said Coker. “I agreed to take over for one year when I initially signed on, but I’m still here, so I guess



Shane (pictured right) stands in the Asher High School gymnasium, home to the program’s numerous state title trophies alongside his brother Coby Lehman, also an Asher alumni and CPN’s Cultural Activities Coordinator.”

that says something.”

A standout at Asher, Coker was the youngest player drafted in Major League Baseball’s 1989 draft. Joining the Cincinnati Reds, he spent two years as the organization’s youngest player, playing in the the Gulf Coast League and Florida State League.

“I was 18 when I went in, and looking back I should have probably gone to college,” said Coker. “But it was my first time away from home, and though I knew pretty quick that I probably needed more experience before I could cut it at the next level, I didn’t have the chance once I

went professional.”

The National Junior College Athletic Association now allows a player released from a minor league baseball contract if they have played less than 90 days at a level no higher than Class A. During Coker’s time with the Reds’ organization, no such rule existed, essentially ruling out his chance to compete at the collegiate level. A torn rotator cuff at that ended his second season sealed his playing days. Though a relatively simple procedure with a rapid recovery time today, medical progress at the time meant that the injury was career ending.

Returning to Oklahoma, he began classes at Seminole State Junior College, and while there was offered a part time assistant coaching position by a former Asher teammate at Earlsboro High School.

“When I started doing that, training my mind to look at the game from a coaching perspective to a playing one, is when I realized I could see myself teaching and coaching,” explained Coker.

Completing his Bachelor’s Degree at the Central State University, now known as the University of Central Oklahoma, Coker spent time coaching at Prague, Varnum and Duncan. Entering his ninth year as the head coach at Duncan, he decided to just coach football, when the opportunity at his alma mater opened up.

Since 2005 the Social Studies and Physical Education teacher has been helped reestablish the program’s reputation as a powerhouse in Oklahoma baseball. He was the 2012 Class B Coach of the year, and his teams have played in the past three state championship games,

narrowly losing to the same team in each contest, Red Oak High School.

Recalling the details of the games, Coker elaborated. “It’s tough, to lose that way and to the same team, and I want to win. But looking at the number of teams who play baseball, and the small percentage of those who get to actually play in the state tournament, let alone the championship, I am proud of what we’ve done.”

With solid classes of experienced players returning, the CPN member believes that his team has a chance to play in the next four state championship games. Speaking in the lobby of the Asher High School gymnasium, Coker points to the overflowing trophy cases that line the walls and explained why he’d come home to Asher.

“Athletics taught me about life. Taught me about how a group of people can work for something bigger than themselves. I figured if I could give that same trait to some kids here, and if they can use that to get through their lives, then I’ve done my job.”

Oklahoma Baptist University Football Program Gets Rolling with New Bus

Citizen Potawatomi Nation donates bus to OBU athletic department

Oklahoma Baptist University will take the football field on Aug. 31 for the first time since 1940, playing Southwestern College of Kansas. The new football program meant they needed a shuttle for OBU fans that will visit the campus this fall.

“We offered to help by donating a 40-passenger bus to shuttle football fans from parking areas to the stadium,” said Brad Peltier, executive operations coordinator, Citizen Potawatomi Nation. “With Oklahoma Baptist University’s football season kicking off this year,

they mentioned that one of their biggest obstacles will be parking and shuttle transportation from extended parking areas. We are happy to help.”

Citizen Potawatomi Nation stepped up to provide OBU with a bus and painted it the green and gold of OBU Bison Athletics.

“We are very excited about this gift,” said Robert Davenport, director of athletics, OBU. “This helps our need and gives us the opportunity to work with the community and that’s very important to us. We’re excited it’s painted green



Citizen Potawatomi Nation is a proud sponsor of OBU Athletics.



Robert Davenport, director of athletics, OBU; Vice-Chairman Linda Capps, Citizen Potawatomi Nation; Dr. David Whitlock, President, OBU; Chairman John Barrett, Citizen Potawatomi Nation.”

and gold, that really fits what we’re doing here.” The donation, worth more than \$14,000, and continued partnership with OBU aligns with CPN’s values in academics and athletics.

“We are proud to support OBU in both academics and athletics and we’re excited for the 2013 football season to begin,” said Citizen Potawatomi Nation Chairman John Barrett.

“This bus will help OBU fans have a more comfortable and memorable time in Shawnee and we look forward to having them in town again and again.”

The Bison will take the field wearing uniforms by Nike in variations of green and white basics. OBU’s white pants have black and green stripes on the side, while the green pants are striped on the side in black and gold. The white jersey has green numbers outlined in gold and black shoulders. The green jersey has black and gold numbers, outlined in gold, and also has black shoulders.

CPN Veterans Report



Bozho,

There is an issue in our country that has me concerned. It is not what you may think. There are a lot of issues that have been in the news, but the media and public figures are not interested. It is only veterans and active military people who notice that many of our nation’s flags that fly over public buildings, parks, schools and stores we shop at show signs of being torn, shredded and being badly frayed.

The public see these displayed on flagpoles high enough for everyone to view. They “see”, but seldom “notice”. Through our military training and experiences, it has been ingrained in us to notice any unflattering

presentations. We have stood long hours in formations for military inspections where we learned to “pay attention to detail”. We were trained to look sharp. A sharp look breeds respect, and a neglected or shabby look generates a lack of pride.

Displaying the flag of any nation is a sign of pride in belonging to that nation. The condition of that flag reflects the measure of that pride. Veterans measure pride by presentation. Display your nation’s flag to show the measure of your pride. Migwethch!

At this year’s Citizen Potawatomi Nation Festival, the CPN Veterans Organization retired U.S. flags that were too worn and



The veterans organization conducts the proper U.S. flag retirement at the 2013 Family Festival.

damaged and could no longer be displayed. Friday evening, we had a special ceremony to “retire” these flags and with a final gun salute and burning to follow. It is the proper method of retiring a U.S. flag.

Remember the CPN Veterans Organization meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday at a new time of 6:00 p.m. (or as soon as you can get there) in the North Reunion Hall on the CPN Powwow Grounds. All CPN veterans and their families are welcome.

For more information about our organization and how to become a member, you can attend one of our meetings or visit our website at www.Cpnveterans.org.

Daryl Talbot, Commander

CPN hosts AAU First Nations Golf Tournament

Citizen Potawatomi Nation and the Amateur Athletic Union teamed up to host the First Nations Competitive Games in August. Two groups of youth golfers teed off on Friday, August 1 at FireLake

Golf Course in Shawnee, Okla.

“We were happy to host the AAU First Nations golf tournament at FireLake Golf Course,” said CPN Vice Chairman Linda Capps. “We had participants from a

number of the state’s well known tribes, and we look forward to expanding those numbers when we host again.”

In the 12-13 year old division, Absentee Shawnee tribal member

Autumn Parsons-Squire took the title in a sudden death putting contest. In the 14-15 year old division, the Chickasaw Nation’s Kaitlin Bolin emerged victorious after a sudden death putting contest against John Bighorse of the Osage Nation.

in trying it. I explained to him that it was the first one and since our Tribe was hosting it that it would be a good idea to join in, if nothing else just for fun and the experience of it. He agreed that – win, lose or draw – it was important to support our Tribe in this endeavor.”



Osage member Jon Bighorse takes a shot at the AAU First Nations’ Golf Tournament at FireLake Golf Course.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Jace Greenwalt, who finished second in the 12-13 year old division, said he’d enjoyed the first AAU First Nations Golf Tournament.

“This was my first time playing golf, and I was a little nervous about the tournament, but I had a good time. The eighth hole with the lake was the toughest, but the whole morning was fun.”

His father, Jason Greenwalt, explained why he’d signed Jace up for the competition.

“I asked Jace if he would be interested

This was the first year for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to host the AAU First Nations Competitive Games. The Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) is one of the largest, non-profit, volunteer, sports organizations in the United States. A multi-sport organization, the AAU is dedicated exclusively to the promotion and development of amateur sports and physical fitness programs. Find out more about the AAU by visiting <http://aausports.org/>.

CPN Eagle Has surgery at Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences

By Derinda D. Blakeney, APR, Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences



Gracie goes under the anesthetic for her procedure.

It is majestic. A national symbol of pride, the bald eagle sits atop the food chain and is something to behold. OSU's Avian, Exotic and Zoo Medicine Services had the pleasure of treating not one, but two bald eagles from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary.

Gracie, a 12-year-old female, came in with a growth under the third toe on her left foot.

"It grew in less than a week," says Jennifer Randell, CPN Eagle Aviary manager. "We were concerned it could be cancerous."

Lindsey Woods, DVM (OSU '12), removed the growth with assistance from Jill Murray, RVT, VTS, and fourth year veterinary student Carolyn Gimble. Dr. Woods is completing a one year internship in the AEZ Medicine Services at OSU's Veterinary Medical Hospital.

Two weeks later, the diagnostic results were in and the mass is benign. Gracie was given antibiotics and remained a patient for several weeks.

"There wasn't enough skin in that area to suture the opening so we had to wait until it healed before she could return to the Aviary," explains Woods.



Dr. Lindsey Woods and RVT Jill Murray change Gracie's bandage as CPN Eagle Aviary staff member Bree Dunham (left) looks on.

Dr. Woods and Jill team up to change Gracie's bandage. Her talons are strong, her sturdy beak sharp and while she has been living at the Aviary, Gracie is still a wild predator. Jill wears protective gloves that reach her shoulders. Grasping Gracie's ankles, Jill holds the bird in front of her body as Dr. Woods puts a blanket over Gracie's head to prevent the eagle from biting either one of them and to reduce her stress. Then Dr. Woods wraps Gracie's talons to avoid being injured while she tends to the wound.

"It's healing well. I'm very pleased with the way it looks," adds Woods.

In the meantime, another bald eagle arrives from the Aviary—a 2-year-old male.

"He is just starting to turn white on his head and tail," says Murray. "His wing was partially amputated after he fractured it sometime ago and Dr. Woods had to go in and take more off the wing because the previous surgical site had become open and infected."

Jill securely holds the young eagle while Dr. Woods unwrapped the bandage to checked the surgical site.

"The incision line is higher up on the wing so that when he hits



Dr. Woods holds up Gracie's newly bandaged talon, which is nearly as large as a human hand.



Eagle Aviary staff member Bree Dunham holds Gracie as she recovers from her procedure.

the sides of the cage with the end of his wing, the incision won't break open," explains Woods. "I made a 'V' shape incision and put about five sutures on one side and six on the other. It, too, is healing well but I'm not yet ready to leave it uncovered. We'll check it again in a few days before we return him to Jennifer."

"The first goal is to save the eagle's life," says Randell. "However, you can't put a crippled eagle in the wild so we provide an environment intended to replicate a portion of their

wild habitat. Providing a home for the eagles gives us a way to educate our young people about these magnificent creatures and the role they play in our heritage. Having the eagles is also a source of naturally molted feathers for tribal members to use in cultural ceremonies."

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary is home to 14 bald eagles and can be visited by calling (405) 275-3121 or (405) 863-5623 to make an appointment.

AMATEUR ATHLETIC UNION (AAU) PRESENTS FIRST NATIONS SOFTBALL/BASEBALL COMPETITIVE GAMES HOSTED BY THE CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION AND FIRELAKE BALLFIELDS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND, 2013

STUDENTS:

MUST BE AN ENROLLED MEMBER OF ONE OF THE 39 TRIBES IN OKLAHOMA

MUST BE 12-15 YEARS OLD

MUST BE A MEMBER OF AAU TO COMPETE

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

TRACY PELTIER AT CPN

405-275-3121 EXT.1454

REGISTRATION WILL START SHARPLY AT 8:00 AM

GAMES START SHARPLY AT 9:00 AM

ALL ATHLETES MUST RSVP BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11TH

REGISTRATION FOR AAU WILL BE CONDUCTED ON SITE

THE MORNING OF THE GAMES



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

FAMILY FUN DAY

Presented by FireLodge Children & Family Services

October 26, 2013 from 1-4pm

at The CPN Festival Grounds inside The North & South Reunion Halls
1700 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee OK 74801

FREE POPCORN and COTTON CANDY

GOODY BAGS

GAMES & PRIZES

CUPCAKE DECORATING

ARTS & CRAFTS

FACE & NAIL PAINTING

FREE DIGITAL ID KITS

VENDORS & MORE!

SIDEWALK SILLY SOCKS THE CLOWN

NEW AWESOME INFLATABLES!

GUNNY SACK RACES

FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

BOWLING

BASKETBALL SHOOT

FREE GAME OF MINATURE GOLF AT FIRELAKE MINI PUTT

All food and activities are FREE while supplies last but bring some cash and check out our great vendor booths!

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness month.

Please join us at this fun FREE event to help raise awareness and learn more about this serious issue.

This project is supported by the IHS Prevention Grant

For more information, contact:

Amanda Chapman

405.275.3176 or
amanda.chapman@potawatomi.org

CPN Health Services expand under Director Tim Tall Chief

Whether it’s a routine dental appointment or assistance in planning dietary needs for elderly tribal members, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s health services are a vital amenity for many. Overseeing the extensive network of tribal clinics and wellness services is the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Health Services Director Tim Tall Chief.

The son of a former Principal Chief the Osage Nation, Tall Chief has held the position for more than two years. Raised in Edmond, Okla., Tall Chief is a graduate of the University of Central Oklahoma. He began his career at Putnam City High school in Oklahoma City, where he both taught and served as a football and wrestling coach.

His career in the health services industry began following a suggestion by his mother.

“She had seen an advertisement for a position with the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) and told me about it. I applied there, and was hired on as a project director,” said Tall Chief.

At the time, the AAIP was implementing a program in medical schools across the nation that sought to recruit and retain Native Americans who wished to attend medical school.

“Retention is actually harder than the recruitment,” explained Tall Chief. “The transition into a college campus and intense medical studies is a culture shock for most, but is especially profound for someone coming off of a reservation.”

Tall Chief helped establish the programs throughout the United States. After doing the same at the University of Oklahoma, he was offered a position to run the

program he had helped implement.

During this time he also served as the Executive Director for the Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled. Following this work, he went on to serve as the State Director of Indian Education for the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Eventually he transitioned into a position with the Oklahoma Department of Health, first as the Director of Human Resources and then as Deputy Commissioner for Administration.

Following his retirement from the Department of Health, Tall Chief was the interim Director of Health for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Chairman John Barrett invited him to take up his current role with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

“We wanted Tim because he came to us highly qualified,” said Chairman Barrett. “His career as a high ranking executive manager at the Oklahoma State Department of Health made him immanently qualified to direct our health services upon his retirement from the state. I believe one could say we made the right decision after seeing the improvements in the quality and delivery of health care to our citizens.”

“Don’t let anyone tell you



Tall Chief in his traditional dress outfit.

retirement isn’t all it’s cracked up to be,” said Tall Chief. “It was great. But it was a good opportunity and after two years here I can say I am really proud of what we do for our patients and tribal members.”

Tall Chief’s pride is verifiable. According to a survey conducted by the medical website, www.vitals.com, the average wait time in a doctor’s office is a little more than 20 minutes. At the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s two clinics, that time is only 11 minutes.

of a toxin stemming from a wound infection. The toxin is related to a particular bacteria that may cause a neurologic syndrome of muscular excitability and spasm, more commonly known by the old term “lockjaw”. This symptom is caused by spasm of the jaw muscles with a rigid contraction; giving one affected by it the appearance of a locked jaw.

Diphtheria is a bacterial infection of the upper respiratory tract that may cause a sore throat and the development of white membranes in the back of the throat, which can cause respiratory difficulty.

Pertussis is caused by bacteria and has also been called “whooping cough”. In children in particular it

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By Amanda Chapman, CPN House of Hope

Domestic violence occurs when one person in an intimate relationship tries to dominate and control the other person. Abuse can occur many different ways such as physical assault, verbal abuse, emotional abuse, financial abuse, and sexual assault. Domestic Violence does not discriminate, it can happen regardless of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, and economic status.

“On average, 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States, based on a survey conducted in 2010. Over the course of a year, that equals more than 12 million women and men. Those numbers only tell part of the story—more than 1 million women are raped in a year and over 6 million women and men are victims of stalking in a year.”
– From CDC National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2010.

There are many signs of domestic violence; the main sign is that you fear your partner. If you feel like you have to constantly be vigilant about the way you say and do things in your day to day life in order to prevent an “explosive situation” then

you are likely in an unhealthy relationship.

Recognizing that you are in an unhealthy relationship is the first step to getting help. Talk with a trusted friend or relative. Find out about local organizations that offer services to victims of domestic violence, shelter and advocates available to assist you with your needs. Take photos of your injuries and document why and when the incident occurred. Keep money, important papers, clothing, car keys, medications and important items in a safe place, so if you have the opportunity to flee at moment’s notice these items are ready to go. If you have children talk to them about a safety plan and how to call 911 for help. Contact your local law enforcement agency for a list of Domestic Violence agencies in your area or The National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1–800–799–SAFE (7233)

Most importantly, remember no one deserves the right to be abused. You deserve to be treated with respect. You cannot change your abusive partner’s behavior. Over time, the abuse will only escalate and become more dangerous or even deadly. Seek help, and remember you are NOT alone.

“That is unheard of in the medical world, whether its private doctor’s offices or public clinics,” points out Tall Chief. “We’re very proud of that. I’d put our clinics and its staff up against any clinic in the country in terms of the quality services we provide.”

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s clinics also recently received their audit report from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Healthcare. The audits are self-imposed by health providers, who seek to identify areas of their services that need improvement. CPN’s clinics have lived up to Tall Chief’s confidence, showing zero deficiencies.

During his tenure Tall Chief has also overseentheexpansion of the tribe’s health services to those not normally served by self-governance tribal clinics. The CPN Clinic West, recently opened near the Grand Hotel and Casino, serves tribal members, their non-Native American spouses and non-Native American tribal employees.

He also sits on the Chickasaw Nation’s Health Services Governing board, and maintains a faculty appointment at the University of Oklahoma. In addition to these duties, he is the CEO of Outdoor Adventures Unlimited Inc., an adventure and culturally-based

program serving training needs of corporations, tribes and non-profit organizations throughout the country.

Most CPN members will likely know Tall Chief from his voice as the MC of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Family Festival, a position he has held for 16 years. When not serving as the voice of pow-wows and rodeos around the country, he can be found ringside at MMA and boxing matches across the state, where he serves as a judge, referee and inspector for the Oklahoma State Athletic Commission. He also sits on the CPN Boxing Commission.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services is to provide high quality, evidence-based, culturally-suitable medical and dental care, public health services, and behavioral health and substance abuse counseling to members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and members of other federally-recognized American Indian tribes and nations and Alaskan Natives. The clinicians and support personnel comprising the CPNHS staff share the goal of eliminating the health status disparities which exist between American Indians and the general population of the United States, and focus on eliminating long-standing access barriers to health and human services experienced by the majority of Native Americans residing in central Oklahoma.

If you would like to learn more, please call 405-878-4693 or visit www.potawatomi.org/services/health.

The importance of adult immunizations

By Dr. Ron Shaw, CPN Health Services

In years past, receiving routine immunizations was the province of school age children receiving measles, mumps, tetanus and polio vaccines. Medical science has been industrious and has developed a number of effective vaccines that include prevention of disease or illnesses for adults. I thought this would be an opportunity to examine some of these vaccines so as to be in the know. We at the CPN Health Clinic strive to practice preventive medicine and advise patients of the indications for and the administering of vaccines that are indeed disease prevention.

Herpes Zoster Vaccine - Herpes zoster is a syndrome caused by reactivation of the varicella or chicken pox virus during which the

virus reactivates from a dormant state causing pain and rash in the distribution of spinal nerves affecting any part of the body. Most people will heal from the rash and pain within 10-14 days, but many are left with persistent nerve pain (post-herpetic neuralgia) that may be prolonged or permanent. The Herpes Zoster vaccine is 80-90 percent effective in preventing the development of the pain and rash that can be indicated at or after age 60. Patients who have reduced immunity from medications, cancer chemotherapy or certain illnesses that cause reduced immunity should not receive this vaccine.

Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis(Tdap) - Tetanus is a syndrome related to the production

has made resurgence in the United States. Most adults do not have remaining immunity to whooping cough from their basic childhood shots and are not immune and may contract the illness as adults in a milder form. Yet those adults are capable of transmitting the illness to children where it may take a more severe form. Adults and adolescents are urged to receive a booster dose of this vaccine which aids in the prevention of all three illnesses, although the prevention of pertussis or whooping cough is the primary focus of prevention with this vaccine. Adults require vaccination to prevent passing it on to children including those grandparents that may watch their young grandchildren. Pregnant women are advised to have one

Tdap vaccine with each pregnancy. Usually an adult should receive a single dose of the Tdap vaccine (if not previously received). Current guidelines deem this one time dose as sufficient. So yes, we should still be worried about whooping cough and get vaccinated (Tdap) as an adult to protect the children.

Ask your healthcare provider to advise you of your vaccine needs or check with the CPN public health nurse. Remember the adage; “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”.

FireLake Designs raises funds for Oklahoma storm recovery



FireLake Designs' Sondra Thompson and Lakisha Meade stand with Susan Morris of the American Red Cross and CPN Executive Operations Coordinator Jason Greenwalt

After two intense days of storms rocked central Oklahoma in late May and early June, media coverage drew the attention of people around the world to the plight of the state's storm victims. The staff of Firelake Designs decided they could contribute to

the relief effort in their own way. "My employees wanted to do something to make a difference during this desperate time of need. They approached me with the idea and I loved it. Darek Johns, my graphic artist, put the design together and we started printing."

FireLake Designs received orders from around the globe after word spread of their effort at aiding local storm victims. The effort raised \$6,290, a total that was split between the Red Cross and a fund established by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to assist tribal

members affected by the storms. "It was truly uplifting to see people ordering t-shirts from all over the world to help out our fellow Oklahomans," said Meade. FireLake Designs provides corporate apparel, T-shirts,

embroidery, signs and vinyl graphics for local and regional businesses, organizations, schools and public offices. If you'd like to learn more about their products and services, call 405-878-8770 or 1-877-347-2745.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member earns scholarships, awards showing cattle



Kody Silas at the 2013 Oklahoma Youth Expo.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member Kody Silas starts his day early. Every morning at 6:30 a.m. Kody wakes up and goes to the barn to feed his cows. After that, he's off to high school, then homework, then back out to the barn to wash and dry the cows.

Kody Silas has done this same routine for years, and the hard work has been noticed. Recently, Kody won the Angus class division champion and the third best overall in Angus breed at the Oklahoma Youth Expo held at

the fairgrounds in Oklahoma City. Kody received a \$500 scholarship from the Angus Association. Kody has helped his father, Kurtis Silas, raise cattle since he could walk and began showing cattle in the seventh grade. Kody will be a

senior at Tecumseh High School in the fall, where he ranks in the top 10 percent of his class. Kody also won first in class with his Chianina heifer and was in the finals in the sure-champ showmanship.

After graduation next year, Kody would like to attend college to study agricultural engineering and maybe show on the college level show team.

Potawatomi Leadership Program learns about the 'Little Brother of War'

A team comprising of the members of the 2013 class of the Potawatomi Leadership Program (PLP) took part in an exhibition match of the

traditional Native American game, stickball. The game, which is also known as "Little Brother of War", was part of the group's summer

immersion in Potawatomi culture. A team of veteran players from the Chickasaw Nation made the trek to the CPN Eagle Aviary, where a field was set up in the pastures south of the eagle enclosures.

"We lost to a team that has been playing stickball for years," said CPN Cultural Activities Coordinator Colby Lehman, who also played for the Potawatomi team. "But our PLP players did a lot better than expected. Stickball is a hard game to pick up, so when you're playing against people who have been playing all their lives, it's just about learning to play and competing."

If you are interested in learning more about playing "Little Brother of War", please contact Coby Lehman at coby.lehman@potawatomi.org.



Gage Johnson and Sarah Sandlin check out the sticks ahead of the game.



Anthony Lacombe goes for the ball near the Chickasaw goalpost.



GOVERNMENT

Zawbogyagises (September 2013)/Bnakwigises (October 2013)

People of the Fire

CPN Legislator profile: Bobbi Bowden

Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s 16-person legislative covers the entire United States of America, with districts 1-8 encompassing the states outside of Oklahoma. One of the five Oklahoma-based representatives, Bobbi Bowden, has served the tribe for more than four years as the District 13 representative.

A Choctaw, Okla. native, the Trombla family descendent still lives in her hometown and is an alumni of University of Oklahoma, where she focused on a degree in finance. The years of study in Norman, Okla. landed her a job in the banking industry, which turned into a 25-year career in the banking and title industry sector.

During this time, she kept up with her longtime passion of interior design. In January 2013, Bowden started anew following years of preparation and obtained her certification from the Interior Design Institute. She started her

own firm, Dash Design, which serves residential, commercial and new construction projects.

While she grew up knowing she was Potawatomi, her family didn’t participate in the tribal gatherings or general counsel meetings. This perspective provides Bowden an insight on the issues facing tribal members, specifically those unfamiliar with CPN’s culture and services.

“From someone who grew up not being involved in tribal activities I understand how some members simply are not aware of the benefits we have access to and the traditions we are so blessed to be a part of,” said Bowden.

“I always want to encourage people to ask about the tribe’s traditions, dancing and regalia. It is very intimidating if you’ve never participated in those activities before, in terms of not knowing what you should do and wear. But like those who helped me when

I was in those shoes, we have so many knowledgeable members that are more than willing to guide those wanting to learn. They’re a resource everyone should use.”

Her participation in tribal affairs changed just prior to 2007 constitutional change that established the current government structure.



Bowden with her daughter Alex at the 2013 CPN Family Festival’s Grand Entry.

“When I initially decided to run, we were still under the five person business committee,” recalled Bowden. “After a meeting with Chairman Barrett and Vice Chairman Capps, where they updated me on the great things the Nation was accomplishing, I decided I could not wait to be a part of it and serve in any way possible.”

Now in her third term, the Trombla family member says that her role as a legislator and active tribal member has two functions.

“As a member of the Legislature, my main function is to get information out to fellow tribal members. I take great pride in getting others involved in some of the traditions. As a tribal member, there is no greater feeling than I get dancing at Grand Entry with my children beside me. I hope they cherish these traditions and carry them on throughout their lives.”

To contact District 13’s Bobbi Bowden, please call 800-880-9880, or email her at bbowden@potawatomi.org.

If you would like to learn more about the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s government, please visit www.potawatomi.org/government.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation conducting census of tribal members

Citizen Potawatomi Nation is conducting a census of tribal members in order to obtain contact information and demographic details. The census data will be used for future emergency response efforts and to provide details when applying to receive grant funds.

“We had more than 310 households respond to the voluntary survey so far,” said Margaret Zientek. “We are very appreciative of members who allow us to have this information and it will be kept confidential.”

The first part of the census is an emergency response form. The information gathered from

the emergency response form will help CPN contact tribal members to offer assistance after emergency events. At time of print, 192 members had filled out the census itself, while 144 had registered their emergency contact information.

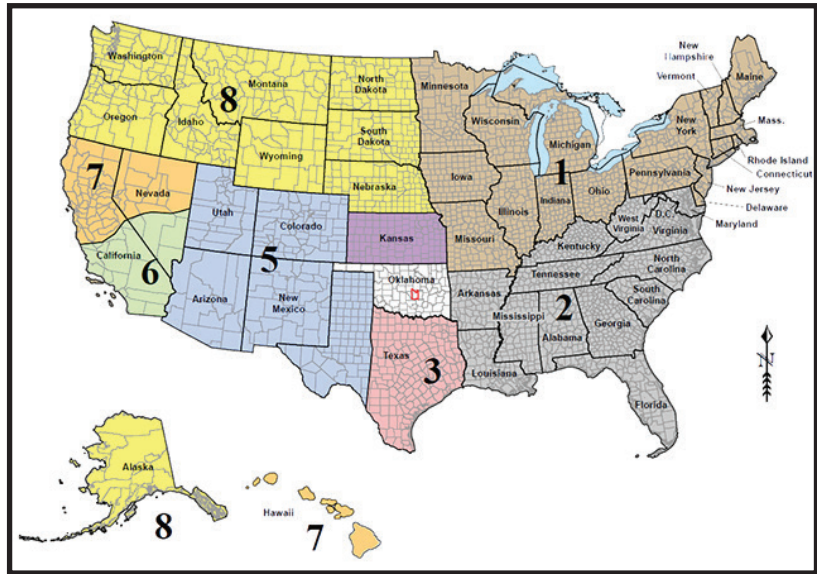
“After the recent Oklahoma tornadoes we had an extremely difficult time getting in contact with CPN members,” said Zientek. “We want to be able to contact members to do well being checks and also offer assistance in those times of need.”

The data would be used for emergency response efforts in other states as well in disaster

situations such as the Joplin tornado, Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Sandy, California Wild Fires, etc.

The second part of the census collects geographic data to assist CPN self-governance and other CPN programs with grant applications.

“Most of CPN programs are funded by grants and we need a significant amount of data to be considered,” added Zientek. “Collecting this demographic information will allow us to have an accurate sample of the CPN population and possibly help us secure more grant funds.”



Legislative District Map

PLP Class of 2013 closes out summer program with presentations, reflections

The 2013 Potawatomi Leadership Program (PLP) students completed their final requirements to conclude the summer’s internship. Program participants initially paired off to work on a joint project that focuses contributing to the tribe’s services or work. During the course of the program, they visit the different tribal departments and are encouraged to consider what they would do to add to the tribe’s work and services. These ideas translate into their final projects, and along with a personal reflection on their experience as PLP members, the students present their results to an assembled audience of CPN tribal leaders and employees.

Bradley Archer, of Milliken, Colo., has been heavily involved in leadership organizations over the years, and viewed the PLP as an extension of these experiences.

“I was looking for a new way to find leadership, another line to put on my resume,” he explained. “But this was so much more.”

Archer, whose Potawatomi name is Monkwabaset (‘He seeks to prepare for spring’) partnered with Breeanna “Cloud” Hamilton of Laverne, Calif. on their final project, a lesson plan for the tribal youth organization.

“Our project is a fine art lesson plan with a cultural influence that really emphasizes family and heritage,” stated Cloud. “We both felt that a fine art week with an emphasis on culture would be really beneficial to the kids at the P.L.A.C.E. as well as tie in our original idea about culture.”

Miranda Hazelton of San Antonio, Texas elaborated on her



The 2013 PLP Class.

initial thoughts on attending the PLP.

“Every time I hear someone say how thankful they are that we gave up our summers to come here, I want to interrupt them and explain how I really haven’t given up anything. I want people to understand that if I had not been a part of the Potawatomi Leadership Program, I would have spent three whole months hot, bored, miserable, and freaking out about college. Instead, I got to have a life changing experience that I wouldn’t give up for the world.”

Hazelton and Sarah Sandlin of Topsham, Maine worked on developing the PLP’s first ever Alumni Association as part of their final project, something many felt was a long time in coming. By first locating and identifying where PLP alumnus live, Hazelton and Sandlin envision that eventually the network can hold events in conjunction with CPN regional meetings and annual Family Festival.

“We hope that our proposal might spark somebody’s interest and that they will run with it,” said Sandlin. “When a group of strong leaders from such diverse

backgrounds come together, anything is possible. A united force of the nation’s ‘best and brightest’ is something that should be fostered.”

Kate Anderson of Enid, Okla., looked forward to relaying her experiences to her grandmother who while Potawatomi, was not raised with extensive knowledge of the tribe’s history and traditions. She elaborated on the dynamic that many tribal members hear about their decadency.

“Before I got here, I felt like I was part Potawatomi,” Anderson said. “But after learning about our traditions and how we view tribal membership. I know that I am not part anything. I am Potawatomi.”

Brian Wojahn of Portland, Ore. worked with Anderson on a showcasing the different styles of dance that attendees see at the annual Family Festival. With the help of tribal members and employees who dance competitively, along with the assistance of Bradley Archer in running the video equipment, they created a film exhibiting the dances.

Regarding his PLP experience

as a whole, Wojahn commented, “I came here very wide-eyed, but I will be leaving with a much greater understanding of what it means to be the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Even though I am far away from my home in Oregon, I feel like I am at home.”

Milwaukie, Ore.’s Nelson Wadman recalled his initial thoughts on being accepted to the PLP class of 2013.

“When my family heard I was going to Shawnee, they all told me that there was nothing there but flat, bare land complimented with humid air,” he said to laughter from the audience. “Before I arrived in Shawnee, I had no real sense of who I was as a person. I owe my tribe a lifetime of service for what it has given me. I now have not only a sense of belonging to a great people but also a sense of purpose and I want to do in my journey through life. I was lost and you showed me the way home.”

Wadman and Anthony Lacombe of Baton Rouge, La. worked on a tool that would help PLP members of the future.

“We started talking about how blind we were coming into this program and tried to brainstorm on how we could help future students avoid this,” explained Lacombe. “We combined our information into a PowerPoint that future students can look at to have a better understanding of how this program is designed to help them become better leaders and more in touch with our heritage. We also took our presentation and created a small brochure to further explain the Potawatomi Leadership Program. Between the brochure and power

point I believe that future students will have a better understanding of what they are signing up for.”

Gage Johnson, a local from Seminole, Okla., followed in the steps of his older sister who is an alumnus of the program.

“This summer has surprised me to say the least. I expected to be stuck in an office every day, hearing about disinteresting things from morning until dawn. Now, I can hardly believe that’s what I expected from this. From the jump, this experience has been one that I will not forget.”

Johnson and Emma Brant of Taylor Lake Village, Texas combined their interests of sports and teaching to develop a lesson plan that introduced Potawatomi youth to the Native American game of stickball.

Brant admitted in her final remarks that she felt a lack of closeness to the tribe due to the distance between her home in Texas and the tribal grounds in Shawnee.

“But as the time passed I learned that I really was a part of this family and tribe,” she remarked. “One of the things that has resonated with me the most since we have been here was something that we heard from (Director of Health Services) Tim Tallchief the very first week that we were here. ‘Never tell someone you are part Potawatomi’ he said. You aren’t part Potawatomi. You are Potawatomi.”

The Potawatomi Leadership Program is designed to educate, inform, and encourage qualified Potawatomi students and to develop within the tribal membership at large a more accurate perception of the tribe and its operations. For more information visit <http://www.potawatomi.org/services/education>.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation honored by Harvard’s Kennedy School for American Indian Tribal Governance

Citizen Potawatomi Nation was one of three American Indian tribal government programs to be selected by the Harvard Project’s Honoring Nations program as All-Stars from the family of 112 outstanding programs that have been selected as honorees since 1999.

The Honoring Nations program identifies, celebrates, and shares excellence in American Indian

tribal governance. At the heart of Honoring Nations is the principle that tribes themselves hold the key to generating social, political, cultural, and economic prosperity and that self-governance plays a crucial role in building and sustaining strong, healthy Indian nations.

CPN was recognized for the Constitution Reform Project, which resulted in a new

constitution that provides the critical foundations for tribal political sovereignty, economic development, social well-being, and cultural preservation.

Administered by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, Honoring Nations is a member of a worldwide family of

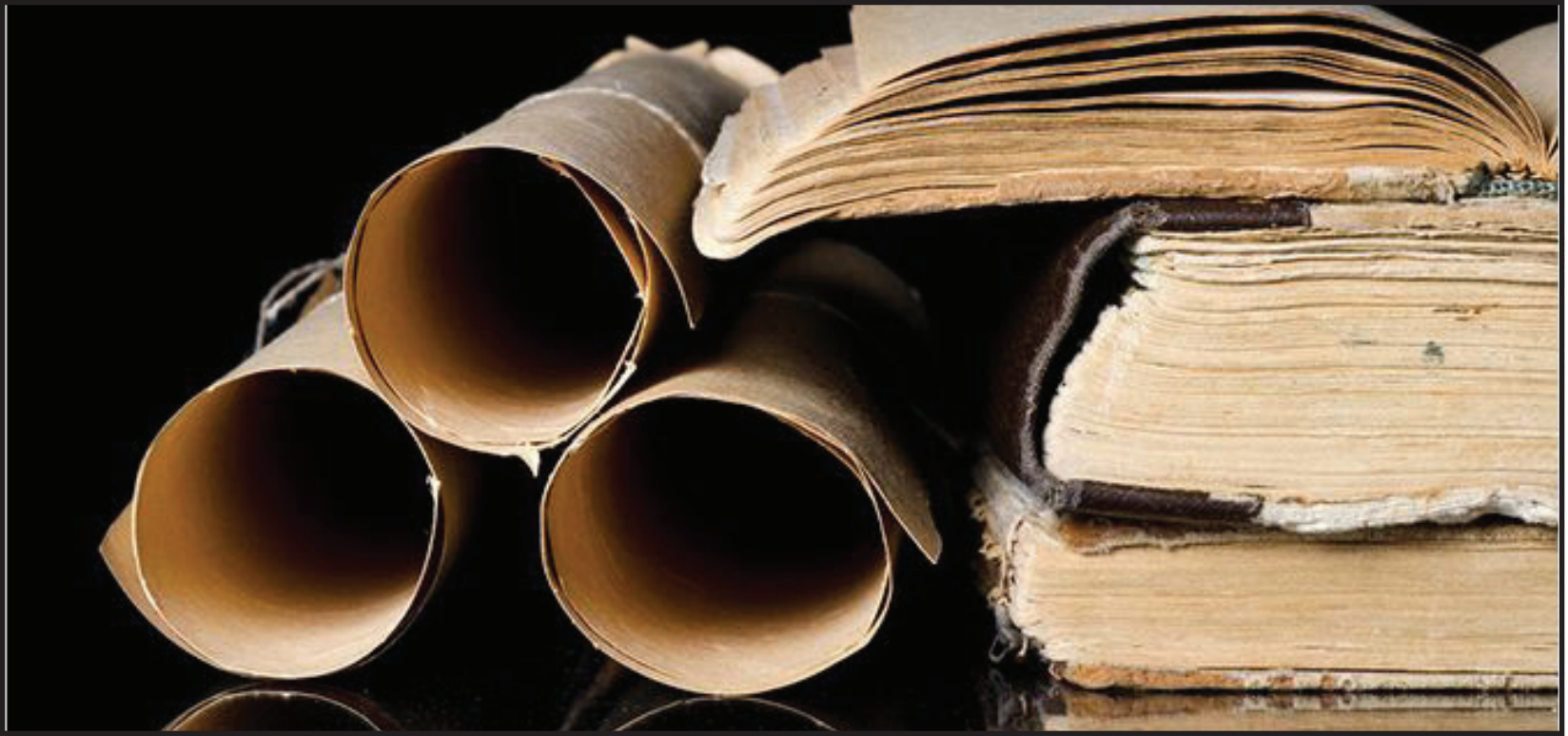
“governmental best practices” awards programs that share a commitment to the core idea that government can be improved through the identification and dissemination of examples of effective solutions to common governmental concerns. At each stage of the selection process, applications are evaluated on the criteria of effectiveness, significance to sovereignty,

cultural relevance, transferability, and sustainability.

“Honoring Nations recognizes innovative programs and initiatives operating throughout Indian Country and provides a unique opportunity for our nations to learn about and replicate these outstanding tribal governance success stories in their own communities,” said Harvard Project Director, Megan Hill (Oneida Nation WI).

2013 Honoring Nations All-Stars: Archie Hendricks, Sr. Skilled Nursing Facility and Tohono O’odham Hospice Tohono O’odham Nursing Care Authority, Tohono O’odham Nation Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Constitution Reform Project Office of Self-Governance, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Red Lake Walleye Recovery Program Red Lake Department of Natural Resources, Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians

For more information about Honoring Nations, visit the Harvard Project’s web site at www.hpaied.org or call 617-495-1480.



The CPN Constitution was created in 1938, amended in 1985 and again in 2007, forming a structure which incorporates executive, legislative, and judicial functions. A copy can be downloaded at www.potawatomi.org/government/constitution.

FireLodge Youth awarded DOJ Grant for after school tutoring program

In its ongoing efforts to serve youth in the areas surrounding tribal headquarters in Shawnee, Okla., the Citizen Potawatomi Nation has recently been approved expand an after school tutoring program for Native American youth.

According to Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA), approximately 28 percent of the 273 delinquent youth in Pottawatomie County were Native American. In the county’s two major cities, Shawnee and Tecumseh, 39 and 33 percent respectively of their delinquent populations were Native American. Delinquent youth are qualified as any minor in contact with the state’s Juvenile Justice System.

To combat the delinquency and dropout rates amongst local Native American youth, the FireLodge Tribal Youth Program has developed the Potawatomi Learning and Cultural Exchange (P.L.A.C.E.). The program will seek to fill the gap currently facing local Indian youth in Pottawatomie County, where aside from FireLodge Tribal Youth Program, no other structured after school tribal-specific programs exist for youth over the age of 12.

Specifically, it will serve 60 tribal youth for one hour a day, three times a week during the course of the 9-month school year. In addition, the program will also offer life and social skills classes as well as health and wellness activities to supplement the tutoring. The aim is to cut the dropout rate of Native American at Tecumseh and Shawnee public schools by 5 percent over the next academic year.

“There is a lack of academic



Local students will have several opportunities to study and receive tutoring both onsite and at offsite locations.

assistance for Native youth once they get past the age of 12 in terms of local, after school programs,” said BJ Trousdale, Coordinator of the Tribal Youth Program. “We ran a trial program last year to get an idea of what we needed to address in terms of curriculum and focus. This year, with this grant, we are developing a set curriculum with academic tutors whose focus will be to assist Native American students in the surrounding areas.”

Parents and guardians will also have to actively participate in the program. Each 9 weeks of

the school year, they will provide FireLodge Youth Program with students’ academic records, which can also include attendance and behavior reports. They will also have to participate in semi-annual progress meetings with tutors to help track their student’s progress and look for areas that need attention. In incorporating parents, the program’s tutors will create long-term plans, known as “My Success Plans”, that establish students personal and academic goals.

The program will also serve at-risk students who are unable to

travel to the on-site tutoring which will take place at the P.L.A.C.E. Gym near CPN headquarters immediately after school. Three tutors will serve high-risk youth, who have other after school activities, been expelled or face other learning challenges, at a designated location outside the normal youth club hours.

“By working around the schedules of students unable to get to the tutoring session at the gym, we want to show these high-risk students that we care about their success,” said Trousdale. “Sometimes just showing some

positive action can provide them the motivation to stay with it.”

If you would like to learn more about FireLodge Youth Program’s tutoring program for the upcoming academic year, please contact BJ Trousdale bjtrousdale@potawatomi.org. To learn more about FireLodge Youth Program’s other activities and services, please visit www.potawatomi.org/services/community/firelodge-children-and-family-services/youth-council.

Are you related to any of the following individuals? Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s is looking for information to probate the estates of our Trust Property owning Tribal members. If you have any information please contact Matt Masilon at Real Estate Services at (405) 395-0113.

- Savannah Drake - Estate of Dwight Blaine Drake
- Patrick Slattery and Patricia Alice Ely (or any heirs) - Estate of Patricia Alice Ely (any and all relatives or heirs)
- Robert E. Copeland Jr. - Estate of Robert E. Copeland Jr. - (any and all relatives or heirs)
- Clyde Vernon Hicks - Estate of Clyde Vernon Hicks (any and all relatives or heirs)
- Christopher Pitcher and Mary Pitcher - Estate of Molly Pitcher
- Georgia B. Sanchez - Estate of Georgia B. Sanchez (any and all relatives or heirs)

Rural Water District #3 to install major water line

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Rural Water District 3 will soon install 11 miles of eight inch water line in western Pottawatomie County. This line will provide service to new RWD3 customers along its route and, most importantly, it will connect the Dale Water Plant to the original distribution territory of RWD3, which is served by the water treatment plant near Macomb. This will provide an important back-up water source to the customers served by both of the facilities.

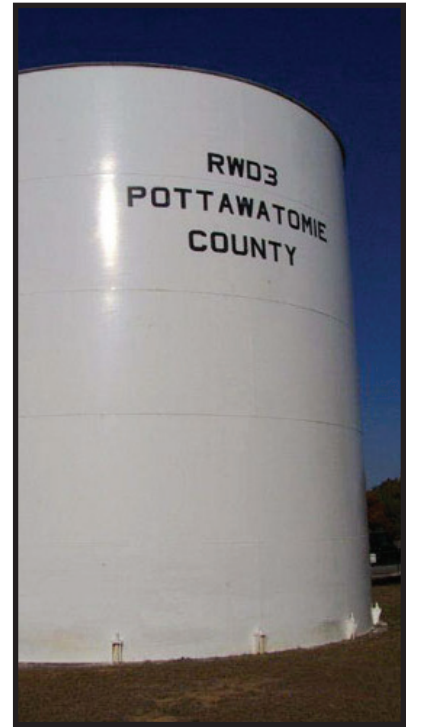
“This new line will not only allow us to connect new customers to the RWD3 distribution system, but it will also allow us to deliver quality treated water to our customers in both of the areas that the two plants serve,” said Richard Kunze, CPN Public Works Director. “It insures that all of RWD3 will have water available in the event that there is



Tribal officials and representatives from Rural Water District #3 sign the installation agreement.

a problem at either of the plants.” The project is funded by a USDA-Rural Development grant of \$331,836 and a Rural

Development loan of \$765,000. The project will begin in August and will take about six months to complete.



CPN-owned Rural Water District #3 already serves much of southern Pottawatomie County.

Self-Governance Office welcomes Tesia Zientek to staff

In its mission to seek out funding for tribal services, the Office of Self Governance plays an important role in the financial stability needed to keep many of the tribe's vital programs running. CPN recently welcomed a new Grants and Contracts Coordinator to the office, tribal member Tesia Zientek.

A 2005 graduate of Bethel High School, the Weldfelt and Whitehead descendent went on to attend the University of Notre Dame. Following the completion of her Bachelor's Degree, she spent two years teaching in Puerto Rico, an experience that stoked her passion for education.

“I am interested in how what happens outside of the classroom affects a student's learning,” explained Zientek. “I am particularly fascinated in the work being done in nonprofits, after school programs, and internship programs, especially for minority students.”

To further pursue her interest in education, she applied to Stanford University's Graduate School of Education, where she earned her Master's Degree from the Policy, Organization and Leadership studies program. The focus of her studies there was on Native American education.

“I have always been a fierce advocate for acknowledging the unique aspects of local life,” said Zientek. “For education, this means making sure that



Zientek, seen here in the Self Governance office, is in charge of researching opportunities for funding of tribal-run programs.

every lesson or program is culturally relevant and tailored to the specific students being taught. Reading federal policies that did not pertain to Native children yet applied to them legally continuously reminded me how important it is that local communities are involved in running themselves.”

Her studies on this facet of education lead Zientek back to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, where she recently began working in the Self-Governance Office.

According to Zientek, “I wanted to give back to the community that had given so much to me

throughout my life. The constant fight for self-determination and self-governance fits this perspective perfectly and makes everything I did in my job meaningful.”

Her role in the office focuses on researching opportunities for funding of tribal-run programs.

Meeting with the departments that serve tribal members, Zientek studies federal policies and legislation in order to keep the office's grant applications up to date.

“Tesia's academic background and general experience is such an asset to OSG,” commented Grants Analyst Kasie Nichols. “In her position as a Grants and Contracts Coordinator, she will use her strong research and writing skills on a daily basis as we plan, identify, and fully develop a variety of grant proposals based on the Nation's priorities. I am just very happy to have Tesia in OSG. It is exciting to train the ‘next generation’!”

This work filters down to Potawatomi all across the U.S., whether the grants fund programs for tribal youth, environmental protection of tribal land, or a host of other issues.

“We advocate for self-governance, we seek funding, and we help to plan and implement programs that ultimately aim to improve the lives of tribal members,” she explained. “This is a constant driver for all of us, and we hope that all of our efforts contribute to progress and fulfillment.”

Over the past few weeks, she has served as a coordinator to the Potawatomi Leadership Program, and also took first place at the 2013 Family Festival Dance Contest.

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI DISTRICT 8

FALL FEAST

SATURDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 16TH, 2013 • 5:00 - 8:00PM

- The Nation will provide a traditional turkey dinner with all the fixings. Potluck dessert is optional.
- There will be presentations by Curtis Grant for the CPN Cultural Heritage Center.
- We will be taught crafts by Leslie Deer of the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. (Bandolier making for men and a regalia bag for women).
- Traditional prizes and member art contest - bring your native arts and crafts to be judged.

Come be a part of your Tribe and your District!

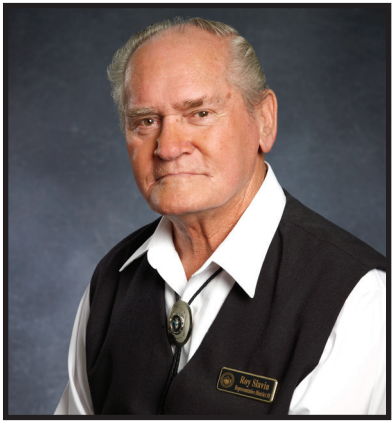
LOCATION: DUWAMISH LONG HOUSE AND CULTURAL CENTER
4705 W MARGINAL WAY SW, SEATTLE, WA 98106

Crafts are limited to enrolled and present members. The first 35 men and the first 35 women to sign up for the crafts are guaranteed to have materials. Call or e-mail to RSVP* by November 5th. Please inform us if you will be crafting. Legislator Dave Carney
Office Numbers: 877-335-4395 or 360-753-4395 - DCarney@Potawatomi.org.



Legislative Columns

District 1—Roy Slavin



This year hosted by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomie. Potawatomi people have called the land in the lower Great Lakes area home for hundreds of years. As the treaty of 1833 established the conditions of removal of the Potawatomi westward, this small band under the leadership of Leopold Pokogan negotiated the right to remain in their homeland, in part because they had demonstrated a strong attachment to Catholicism. This connection was most poignantly illustrated with the founding of Notre Dame.

A group of legislators and their

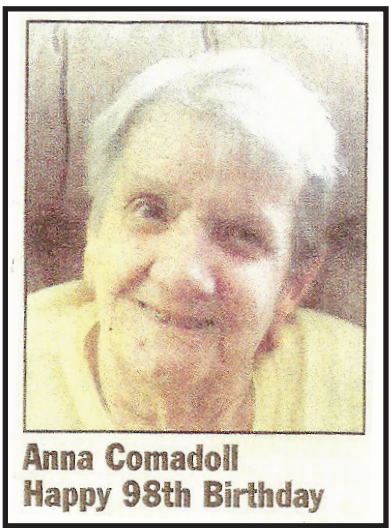
wives visited the Twin Lakes area and the site of Menominee chapel, the church where the Potawatomi were rounded up by the military and the beginning of the Trail of Death.

That brings me to the Trail of Death caravan. Every five years, there is a re-enactment of the removal. The caravan begins September 23 at the Menominee monument at Twin Lakes and ends September 29 at Sugar Creek in rural Linn County, KS. The Itinerary can be found at www.potawatomi-tda.org.

As you know I like to honor the elders in my district who are 85 years of age or more. I received a note from Jennifer Creviston recently. She writes, “I am writing this letter for Anna Comadoll. She is doing good. We celebrated her 98th birthday on August 5. We went to a restaurant to eat and when we returned her former neighbors were there to surprise her. She was so tired after all that but she said it was a great birthday. She received flowers from Roy Slavin CPN District 1 and Diana

Rhoades. She is in good health and spirits.”

HAVE ANOTHER GREAT YEAR ANNA.



I would like very much to hear from all the veterans in my district with a brief description of their dates of service, where they received basic training at, schools attended, where they were stationed, etc.

I want to hear from both officers and enlisted men. I will start the



ball rolling with an example.

R. Slavin, 1950 – 1953 basic training, Ft. Knox, Ky. Radio operator school, Ft. Monmouth, N.J. “operation Greenhouse”, Eniwetok atoll, Marshall Islands (“h” bomb test.) Radio repair school, Ft. Monmouth, N.J. Communication Chef Ft. Devens Mass. Discharged Ft. Dix, N.J.

I will end this article as always

with a plea for your contact information. If you live in or east of Mo. and north of Ark., you are in District 1. If you do not receive e-mail or regular mail from me it is because I do not have your contact information and due to privacy issues the Nation cannot provide me with that information. Please send contact information to R. Slavin 6730 Tower Drive, Kansas City, Mo. 64151

District 2—Eva Marie Carney



Bozho nikan/Hello friends,

Ah, September. Those lucky enough to have an end of summer vacation have returned home, kids have gone back to school, businesses are getting back to business. And for this Legislator, September means a return trip (with lots of you, hopefully!) to the Archives of the National Museum of the American Indian. If you join us, you will see a great many interesting artifacts and photos of early Potawatomi life. Specifically, the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) Archive Center collections are particularly focused on Native art, culture, knowledge, politics, events, and social and political movements. The Archive Center provides reference services to

Native American community members, scholars, researchers, journalists, museum staff, and the general public. However, their building, which is located in Suitland, Md., is open to researchers by appointment only. Our appointment, which was secured many months ago, is on Friday, September 27, 2013, starting at 2 p.m. (the building closes at 5 p.m.). At that time, we will be given an orientation to the Archives building and collection, and shown to a room displaying many of our Potawatomi objects that have been pulled by the curators for us to view. Later, we will be invited to go back into the “stacks” and see much of the rest of the Potawatomi materials in the Archives, as well as other Native communities’ beadwork, pottery, drums, household objects, paintings and other artwork, and much more. It will be a great day and a particularly good opportunity for those interested in learning more about our beadwork and crafting to examine authentic, older items and see how we Potawatomis traditionally make things. Photos of past Archives visits are on my website and at: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10150154437010117.402090.711170116&type=1>

&l=ed427e342e. Please email me or call me to secure your spot.

With column space at a premium I need to be brief in enthusing over the Pokagon Band of Potawatomis as gracious hosts for the Gathering of Nations. Their lands and facilities are beautiful and we shared traditions and customs and had good conversations among Tribal Council members. I really enjoyed meeting up with so many fellow Citizen Potawatomi who came from all over (including Davis Hobdy from Maryland and his mother Marge Hobdy from Texas, the Allmans from Ohio and Ark., and the Bazhaws from Ga. and Okla. among others) and visiting and dancing together. Here’s a photo of a number of the CPN women who travelled to Michigan for the Gathering, and another of me with three generations of Bazhaws



I’ve also put a large number of photos online, available via this link: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10153091808325117.1073741839.711170116&type=1&l=bacab5f3f9>.

Further, a side trip to Indiana to see the site of our ancestors’ detention and starting point for the Trail of Death forced march was particularly moving – I took this photo of the Trail of Death marker now posted at the site.



Please call or write if you want to visit about any matter or to just say hello. Migwetch/thank you for the honor of representing you.

Legislator Eva Marie Carney/Ojindiskwe (Bluebirdwoman)

ecarney@potawatomi.org
CPN Legislative District #2
701 8th Street NW, #340
Washington, D.C. 20001
toll free 1-866-961-6988

Visit my website:
evamariecarney.com

District 3- Robert Whistler



Bozhoo (Hello):

The second week of August, I was fortunate enough to have the time to take a week and attend the annual Gathering of our nine Nations.

This year the event was hosted by the Pokagon Band Potawatomi's in New Buffalo, Michigan. This is the general area where our

ancestors were forcibly removed, and started to walk the Trail of Death in September of 1838.

While there, several of us went to the site in Ind. where the Trail of Death began. The area is a very beautiful green with nice crops in their prime at this time of year. A lot of corn and soy beans are currently being grown. I think about the kind of emotions that our ancestors must have experienced, some of whom were put in chains, when forced to start that 660 mile journey on foot to Kansas.

On their arrival at Sugar Creek, KS there was nothing. The promised food and shelter did not exist. Two years ago I visited this site in KS and it is a completely different kind of environment from the Great Lakes Region where our ancestors started, and would have been a real shock to those who survived the long trek. The first year they

lived behind blankets draped over the river bank for their shelter from the elements.

Many of you have had the opportunity to come to our Family Festival the last weekend each June. This year's Festival had just over 5,000 registered attendees. Our Citizen Potawatomi Nation is growing and now has a total population in excess of 30,000.

The Potawatomi consist of nine different groups and in total, number well over 50,000. I wasn't sure of the exact spelling of the names of each individual Nation, so I asked the Director of our Cultural Heritage Center, Dr. Kelli Mosteller for that information. There are seven of the individual Potawatomi groups, or Nations, who reside in the U.S. and two in Canada. Those latter two are referred to as First Nation tribes by the Canadian government.

Our nine Nations names are as follows: Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Prairie Band Potawatomi, Hannahville Indian Community, Forest County Potawatomi, Pokagon Band Potawatomi, Nottawaseppi Huron Band, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish or Gun Lake Band, Walpole Island First Nation, and Wasauksing First Nation.

Next year's Gathering will be hosted by the Gun Lake Band and they are also located in Michigan. If you can free time the second week of August next year, I urge you think about making the trip to see where our ancestors lived before the forced move from the area. You will see the beauty of the area and get a chance to meet some of your very distant relatives. I find these events very informative and learn new things about our culture and heritage each year.

As I write this month's column, it is on a return trip to this same area to see more of this beautiful countryside.

In closing, I am proud to represent you and am here to help should you have a need where I can assist. So don't hesitate in calling or contacting me by email.

Bama mine (later),

Bob Whistler/Bmashi
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
District 3 Representative

112 Bedford Rd, Ste 116
Bedford, TX 76022

817-282-0868 (office)
817-229-6271 (cell)
817-545-1507 (home)

RWhistler@Potawatomi.Org
CPN3Legislator@yahoo.com

District 4—Jon Boursaw



Well I have been in my position for only about eight weeks now and actually have had several contacts with Tribal members in District 4. Among other topics

I have assisted in an enrollment card question, initial contact regarding a naming ceremony and an eligibility question for access to the Indian Health Service Clinic at the Haskell Indian Nation University. But the majority of my efforts center around two subjects:

CPN VETERANS LIVING IN DISTRICT 4: A Native American Veteran Health Fair was held on September 5, 2013 at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Casino and Resort Hotel. This event was a joint project between the Department of Veteran Affairs, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and the other four tribes in Kansas. The

objective of this health fair was to assist Native American veterans living in Kansas understand what benefits and services are available to them through the VA, determine their eligibility and then inform on them how to obtain these benefits and services. Details regarding this event were posted on the CPN web page for a few weeks. If you were unable to attend the health fair but would like to know more about what may be available to you, please contact me and I will try to answer your questions or direct you to the proper office in the VA which can assist you.

2013 POTAWATOMI TRAIL

OF DEATH CARAVAN: The caravan will retrace the route of the Potawatomi Trail of Death from Indiana to Kansas commemorating the 175th Anniversary of the forced relocation. They will depart from Twin Lakes, Ind. on Monday morning, September 23 and complete their journey on Sunday morning, September 29 when they arrive at what was the Sugar Creek Reservation in rural Linn County, Kan. We have recently learned that the Governor of Kansas, Sam Brownback, has accepted an invitation to attend the September 29 event.

My plan is to join the caravan on

Wednesday of that week in Quincy, Ind. and travel with them to Sugar Creek. I have recently learned that the caravan will be met at Sugar Creek by CPN members who live in the area, local residents from the area, and members of the Linn County Historical Society. Guided tours of points of interest in the Memorial Park will be available from 9-11 a.m. A Mass will be held at 11 a.m. followed by a pot luck luncheon. If you want to be part of history being recreated, join us on Sunday morning at Sugar Creek. Please bring something for the potluck and your own table service.

(Boursaw continued)

Directions: South on K-7 from Osawatomie or North on K-7 from Mound City, turn at sign for the St. Sister Philippine Duchesne Memorial Park. Proceed west for a few miles to entrance to the park which will be on your left.

SENIOR SUPPORT NETWORK STAFF IN ROSSVILLE: The Senior Support Network functions as a resource to get elders in touch with the resources that they need. The staff visits CPN Elders in nursing homes and assisted living to monitor their healthcare and show that someone cares. They offer in-home blood pressure checks/vital sign checks, and weekly medication set-up. The nurses will also help find any

information someone may need on assistance with healthcare, who to call for Medicare questions, support group information, and help answer questions with programs for the Elders provided through the tribe. They also have a limited inventory of medical equipment, i.e. rollator walker, wheel chair, canes. Of course they will offer flu shots once the serum is received from the CPN clinic in Shawnee, Okla. Finally, they also organize monthly activities for the elders, such as: trips, movies, potluck luncheons, card games, etc. If you have a medical condition that they can assist you with, or just want to participate in their activities, don't hesitate to contact Tracy or Jenny at 785-584-

6171. Matter of fact, we have a tour of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation reservation scheduled for September 24, so give them a call if you are interested.

Finally I received the following in an e-mail from a CPN member who lives in Arkansas the day before I wrote this article: "My mom lived in Topeka until she walked on two years ago. There was a nurse from the tribe that came by and checked on her every so often. That was a good program. She always looked forward to someone visiting with her. It seems to me that our older people are the ones that need help the most."

NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION: In my previous column I stated

that I wanted these articles to focus on District 4 members and their activities, but to do that I need your input. I asked that you send me noteworthy events or accomplishments that I can include in my article. Finally, I asked for you to tell me if you own a business or if you know of a tribal member who does, so I can mention them in my article. Send me your e-mail address, or if you don't have e-mail send me your mailing address, so I can keep you abreast of events and activities in the District and important news from the Tribal headquarters in Shawnee.

I plan to keep my previously announced schedule for being in

the District office in Topeka of 9-11a.m. on Tuesdays and 3-5 p.m. on Thursdays. But I strongly recommend that you call first as I do have commitments like elder tours and the Trail of Death caravan that will require me to be out of the office during those times. Of course I am available to meet at other times if these hours are not convenient.

Migwetch

Jon Boursaw
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
District 4 Legislative Representative
(O) 785-861-7272
(C) 785-608-1982
jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org

District 5— Gene Lambert



Hello out there in Potawatomi Land,

Wow, time flies by and you realize it is just repeating the same song. Where does it go and what were you doing when it flew by? So many things you planned on completing, creating, developing or writing about and it just keeps on walking. You sit quietly as it passes you by.

Good intentions pave the road to, well, you know where.

Maybe you don't. Maybe you are just like me and have the greatest of plans but life keeps getting in the way. It always seems sooooo important in the moment. Is it?

The truth is "IT IS JUST ANOTHER AVOIDANCE OF THE THINGS WE ARE AFRAID OF." CHANGE!!!

Have you ever noticed the minute you want to change your life or life habits...out of the blue everything and anything comes up and goes wrong? It keeps you from accomplishing what you intended to do.

It is like a pebble you drop in the water and watch the five levels of ripples that emerge just after.

I see this in my own life and the students I work with every day. You try and explain to them to expect this effect the minute you decide you are going to make changes in your life. They look at you and you know what they are thinking. Not me!

Sometimes it happens the very next day or a week to two down the road.

Count on it!

I tell them to put blinders on... one foot in front of the other...It will pass. Again, they look at me thinking...not me.

As time goes on.... and for those who listened.... it does pass. Now, the next question is, "HOW DID YOU KNOW?!" I have been watching for many, many years. Experience in my own life tells me but I still buy in on occasion. OK, Often!

What I want to talk about today is your "DREAM". You know.... that secret in your heart. That one thing you always wanted to do but were so frightened of the lack of acceptance that you keep shoving it further and further back of your mind. I am too old, too young, not enough talent, to tall, to short, too heavy or too thin, people with make fun of me. Those are some of the reasons you tell yourself and why it doesn't come to fruition.

Studies have shown that we are more afraid of success than failure. Someone shared with me recently the idea that the graveyard is full of more lost dreams than all things written, invented, or created to date. I shutter to think.

Do you have an idea, or invention, you want to bring to fruition but just haven taken the time? Is there something inside you that the world is waiting for?

COULDA....SHOULDA.... WOULD!!

There was a movie out recently called "THE BUCKET LIST". While it was approached with great humor it was sad to think they waited until they heard they didn't have much time left from their doctor. Suddenly, they had so many things they had wanted to do they created a list and started out to accomplish them. Remember, they were in their "Golden Years". Why did they wait so long?

Well, they had children to raise. Their work took priority. They had friends who needed them. There was television to watch as they observed others "doing".

"We work to live....not...live to work!

When I was about 16 or 17 I was so afraid I was going to be on my own and not know what to do with life in general. I talked with anyone and everyone who would talk to me that was 60 plus. I would ask them, "If you could do life over what would you do differently?"

Each and every person I talked to said they wish they had been more adventurous. They didn't all use

the same verbiage but said the same none the less. Having sought out such wise counsel I was sure I wouldn't make the same mistakes. Right? I decided adventure must be the answer.

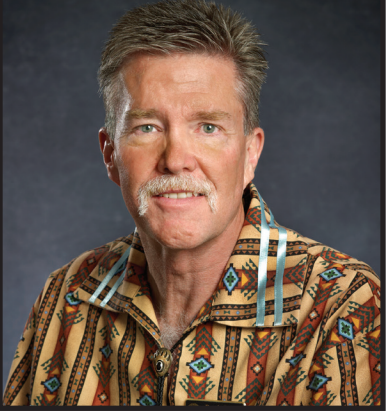
So today I challenge you to think about five things you really want to experience. Singing, dance lessons, that vacation you always dreamed of, archery, skating, going back to school to get the degree you intended to get ten years ago. Just a day at the spa.

Whatever it takes to makes you feel accomplished, special, valuable. Achievement is the best medicine for depression. There is a book out "ACKNOWLEDGE THE FEAR AND DO IT ANYWAY." That's what I do every time I get on a plane or go to the dentist. (ha)

Most importantly, you want to show your children how to seek out the world and all it has to offer. If you do...they will see the value. Give them their roots and wings. See you all soon.

Gene Eunice Imogene Lambert
Legislator District 5
Citizen Potawatomi Nation

District 6—Rande Payne



Bozho Nikan,

I am writing my column from the Los Angeles airport this month in route home from the Gathering of Nations in Dowagiac, Mich. There's so much to report that I can't wait to get started.

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi hosted this year's Gathering and hosted it well they did! I was fortunate to be able to attend the Language Conference just prior to the gathering. I have great respect for those that are working hard to help preserve our precious language including our own CPN language team. It was great to see Justin Neely, Sam Navarre and

Randy Schlachtun teaching and learning with some of the best.

There is way more to tell you about the gathering than space available. Here are a few highlights from my experience at The Gathering of Nations:

If we are "of the blood", we are Potawatomi. However, I believe that it is our language, traditional ceremonies, beliefs and culture that enrich our life and make our blood strong.

We are all in this together. All of our Potawatomi tribes have been separated from our culture for at least one or two generations minimum. Rediscovery is happening at a good pace by all Potawatomi tribes and contrary to what we may think we Citizen Potawatomi's are not any further behind than any of the other Potawatomi tribes. There is a strong spirit among all Potawatomi tribes of learning from each other.

History has not been kind to Native America. Historical trauma has adversely affected the way we view the world. We have been disconnected from the old ways

and may have never fully accepted the new ways because of what we experienced along the way through such life changing events as "Trail of Death". But we live in an age now where we can live in both worlds. We have the ability to practice our traditional culture in a way that is in harmony with our present day beliefs.

Anishnaabe or "original peoples" is who we are. It is widely believed that because we needed a means of communication, the Creator gifted us with Bodewadmi Zheshmowen which means Potawatomi Language. Potawatomi elders will tell you that our language is a "living" language. In the world of our Potawatomi ancestors every living thing was treated with great respect.

If we have that yearning in our heart to learn, apply and preserve our traditional ways we can do it. It isn't easy and will not happen overnight but rarely is anything worthwhile easy. But maybe for our generation the fulfillment for us is in the journey toward revitalization and preservation for the generations to come.

At General Council Chairman Barrett put forth the idea of all Potawatomi tribes jointly owning a piece of property set aside to use for functions involving all Potawatomi tribes such as the annual gathering, cultural events etc. It would be a cost saving measure affording opportunity for some of our smaller tribes without facilities to host the annual gathering and to eliminate the cost for all of our tribes maintaining facilities that might only be used once every 7 or 8 years. There was also a motion carried that provides for joint tribal funding of a scholarship program. The Hannahville Indian community is taking the lead on the project. CPN received donations from some of the other tribes to be used for assisting our members suffering due to the tornadoes back in May. This was a great gesture and received with heartfelt thanks. This sparked a motion for a Disaster Relief Fund that would be funded by all Potawatomi tribes to be used by any tribe in the event of a natural disaster. CPN and Gun Lake are working together to develop a draft of the plan. All great ideas and worthy causes and I look forward to their development

but I think the greatest value is the unity beginning to develop among our tribes. Wenet (it is good)

Shifting gears from The Gathering of Nations, I'm pleased to announce a southern California District meeting on Saturday November 2. As of this writing the exact location is yet to be determined but it will be somewhere between L.A. and San Diego counties. I hope to have post card invitations with more details going out soon so please save the date! If I don't see you in Las Vegas I hope to see you in southern California or if I'm really lucky both!

Migwetch!

Bama pi

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" Psalm 133:1

Rande K. Payne/Mnedo Gabo
Legislator District 6
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
732 W. Oak Ave.
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 635-1039
Rande.Payne@Potawatomi.org

District 7—Mark Johnson



Bozho,

On Saturday August 24, members of District 7 gathered in Clovis, Calif. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn about how the Affordable Care Act (ACA) applies to Native Americans through a presentation by Mark Mathias, co-owner of the Tribal

Exchange who will be assisting Potawatomi in all 50 states access the ACA for their health insurance needs after October 1, 2013.

California members can go to www.coveredca.com and use the online calculator to estimate the cost of insurance. Nevada members can go to: exchange.nv.gov for the states online calculator. Members in Hawaii can go to www.hawaiihealthconnector.com for more information.

During lunch the group enjoyed videos produced by Curtis



Grant from the Tribal Heritage Productions that included the 2013 Grand Entry during the Family Festival. During the video of Wadase Zhabwe's release from the eagle aviary there was not a dry eye in the house and it gives you a true appreciation of the great work that Jennifer Randell and crew do at the facility. Also viewed was a recently produced video "Going Home" that featured the many enterprises of the Nation.

Our remaining time together was spent making regalia that was led

by Leslie Deer from the Cultural Heritage Center, the men put together Bandolier kits while the women learned the art of making the traditional floral pattern Appliqué on a tote bag. A second gathering is being planned for the Sacramento area in November.

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always give me a call and I

will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to. Please also take the time to give me a call or send me an email with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and District.

Migwetch,

Mark Johnson / Wisk Mtek
Representative, District #7
1565 Shaw Ave., Suite 202
Clovis, CA. 93611
(559) 323-9941 office
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Email: Mark.Johnson@Potawatomi.org
Website: www.markjohnsoncpn.com



Legislative Columns

District 8—Dave Carney



Bozho, Nikan –

The District 8 meeting at the end of July in Eugene, Ore. was a well attended and fun event. We had over sixty members come together and try some new things



Fine Arts winner, Evonne Lowery.

including an art contest. We also dined on barbecued pulled pork and fixings from a local caterer and enjoyed several presentations including one about the Family Heritage Festival.

The winners of the contest were Evonne Lowery in the “fine arts” category for her colorful painting entitled “Nestling Mother” and Cathy Hill in the craft category for an incredible beaded medicine bag. Prizes were a Pendleton blanket and fifty dollar gift card to Michael’s Craft store respectively.

We recognized the wisest member present, the farthest travelled and the youngest present. Our wisest was 94 year old Richard Spencer who went home with a fine Pendleton blanket. Mr. Spencer is a World War II veteran and was awarded a Purple Heart.

The following morning we had our Naming ceremony beneath a big oak tree in a city park. Twelve members received their Potawatomi names and shared a feast afterward. About ten of

the twelve were related, making this an even more special family event.

A meeting in Spokane is scheduled for the end of August. For the previous two years I’ve had summer time meetings in Missoula, Mont. and Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. These locations draw pretty good sized groups because they serve a fairly large pocket of the District 8 members. I’ve thought about



Craft winner, Cathy Hill.



Wisest, Richard Spencer.

having a meeting in the Dakotas, but according to the data that is available to me, there just aren’t enough members to do so. Any Dakota folk want to prove me wrong??? ...please contact me.

Please check out www.dave-carney.com for details prior to the District 8 events and photos afterward.

On a completely unrelated note, I wanted to warn our elders against fraud this summer. Some elderly family members have recently been defrauded of several thousands of dollars. In this circumstance, they received a series of calls from a young man claiming to be their grandson stranded in Mexico. They were asked to wire funds in order to assist the youngster in getting back to his home. Another family member has been subject to the foreign Lottery scam. People: If someone asks you for money, think twice and then think again. Confirm the identity of who you are dealing with, never give out personal information and never wire money. You have worked too hard for this money, don’t hand it over to a scammer.

I hope you are enjoying the summer,

Bama Pi,

Dave Carney/Kagashi
dcarney@potawatomi.org
360.259.4027
877.335.4395

District 9— Paul Wesselhoft



TOBACCO COMPACTS & MY COMMITTEE

Bozho, Nikan:

At the time of this article, only seven of Oklahoma’s 39 tribes have finalized tobacco compacts with Governor Mary Fallin. Another 20 compacts remain to be negotiated. Compacts are used in lieu of taxes because tribes are sovereign nations and cannot be taxed as such.

The governor’s office has said they want to gradually raise the tax price to \$1.03 for all tribes. In return, the state would rebate half of the taxes charged at retail outlets on tribal land. It has been my privilege to be the Chairman of the ten-member Joint (House & Senate) Committee on State and Tribal Relations. This important committee represents the legislative branch of Oklahoma’s government during the compacting process.

Under current law and with the exception of tobacco compacts and motor fuels contracts (which are otherwise provided for by law), cross-deputization agreements, Class III gaming compacts, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) agreements, Motor Vehicle Licensing Compacts, and all other applicable agreements are reviewed by the Joint Committee on State and Tribal Relations and, if the agreements and compacts address

all valid concerns and include all necessary criteria, approval is authorized by this committee.

It appears that I will have a busy session next year, chairing the committee responsible for approving these tobacco compacts between two sovereign governments. Please share your thoughts with me.

Megwetch, Naganit

Paul Wesselhoft

District 10—David Barrett



Bozho,

Boy howdy did this summer go by fast! Between rainy days, our Festival, the Potawatomi Gathering hosted by the Pokagon community in Michigan, reviewing and approving CPN’s 2014 budget, having two legislative sessions on July 1 and August 29, I still had time away from work to enjoy keeping our grandkids this summer.

Allow me to talk about the Gathering this year. It was held at Rodgers Lake pow-wow grounds in Dowagiac, Mich. The camp grounds were formerly a KOA camp ground. Having perfect weather, walking on the tall, green, plush grass under these tall beautiful trees, the Potawatomi people seems to have a small piece of heaven on earth.

Attending the All Councils Meeting and visiting and talking and listening to other Potawatomi nations were sheer delights for me. Just the fact of being here in the heart of the ancestral Potawatomi homelands would have been enough. More enjoyment was added by watching our own Language Director Justin Neely remove old bindings on a large canoe that was being restored by the instructor Kevin Finney from Gun Lake. These new bindings, made of split black spruce root, lashed the gunwales to the bark

leaving two inches between each lashing. They had also replaced a number of spilt two inch bent cedar ribs to give the canoe a solid structure.

This is all good yes, but what do you do to keep the birch bark from leaking? The Indians would get the gum from the black spruce and white cedar trees and boil it to a harden stage, then mix bear fat into the pot to form this resin; however, the crucial part was the exact science of how much gum, how long to boil, how much bear fat to add to reach the elasticity of the resin. After reaching this elasticity, they would apply this to the birch bark that it would not crack but stay solid and hard after being applied to the surface of the canoe.

Also during the gathering I was able to sit in a talking circle discussion and tour some sites around South Bend, Ind. We toured the campus of Notre Dame and a couple of historic sites. One of these was the statue of Chief Menominee, whose inscription reads “In memory of Chief Menominee and his Band of 859 Pottattomie Indians removed from this Reservation Sept. 4 1838 by a company of Soldiers under command of General John Tipton Authorized by Governor David Wallace”. Another site was the Menominee Chapel and on a plaque there it stated in “1838 the Indians were moved westward and the Chapel was forever closed”.

It goes without saying that it is



both a pleasure and an honor to serve you and our great Nation.

Migwetch

David Barrett/ Mnedobe (Sits with the Spirits)
Oklahoma Legislator, District#10
DBarrett@Potawatomi.org

District 12 – Paul Schmidlkofer



Bozho Nikan,

By the time this is posted we will have had our legislative meeting and most likely approved the budget for the upcoming year. One thing I’ve noticed over the years is how our employees and staff put so much work and pride into this process. Each year we go over it line by line and that takes a considerable amount of time. But the total package is quite large and well done. There is all the detail you want and little or

no fluff to wade through. Also I am always grateful to see all the grants and funding opportunities our employees utilize. Rhonda Butcher, who has been with us for many years self-governance, has done so much for the tribe. Her and her department has often been referred to as the rain makers. So much of what we have been able to accomplish was sprung from these programs.

I spent most of July was spent in Rolla, Mo. taking training for a

new teaching assignment I have at Gordon Cooper Technology Center. It was very intensive and took up most of any time I had. As a result I didn’t write an article for that issue of Hownikan. So I would like to take opportunity to mention how the festival has grown. Wasn’t the weather nice? Also we’ve come a long way on our dancing. Keep up the good work.

As always it is both a pleasure and an honor to serve you and our great nation. Thank you for the

opportunity.

Megwetch,

Paul Schmidlkofer

Chairman—John Barrett



Bozho, Nikanek (Hello, my friends)

Today I wrote a paper for my class in Tribal Economic Development at the University Of Tulsa School Of Law. I am studying on-line for my Master of Jurisprudence in Indian Law. The classes are at night, so I can work and go to school as well. The instructor asked for my views on what three things I considered necessary for successful tribal economic development. This is the paper I wrote. It is a little technical, but it sums up what the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is putting into practice with success each day.

THREE IMPORTANT ISSUES FOR TRIBAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The three issues that I believe are most important for tribal economic development are,

in very broad terms: Capable Leadership, the Rule of Law, and Capital.

These characteristics must be exhibited in the hybrid environment of both enterprise and government that is forced on tribes by geography, inhibited by the federal government’s restrictions on capital leverage, and burdened by the necessity to provide services for tribal people who have long been denied access and opportunity. This must be accomplished in a positive manner that does not create a sense of entitlement, foster nepotism, or allow self-dealing within communities in which all are related by blood and culture.

Capable Leadership requires the tribal government attract experienced, educated, and accomplished leadership to positions in both the executive roles in government and the management of tribal enterprise. This requires a stable government with terms of office of at least four years, a clear separation of the powers of each branch of government to reduce disruptive behavior, and accountability in a transparent and financially sound method of operation. This type of leader should be able to manage both the political and financial aspects of the office and be primarily motivated by dedication to the tribal good,

with self-realization through tribal progress and not just monetary compensation. The successful tribal leader must be able to inspire the citizens of the tribe to share in his or her vision of the future.

The Rule of Law requires a tribal government to have a body of laws and a willingness to enforce them in a fair, equitable manner in an independently elected Court of Law. Ideally, the Executive and Legislative Branches should be able to seek opinions of the court on constitutionality without a cause of action. Redress and equal access to justice should be paramount. Tribal law should be available to both Indian and non-Indian alike, with full faith and credit given and received from state courts. The tribal constitution should empower tribal government to waive sovereign immunity for contractual purposes in specific monetary amounts. Stewardship of tribal lands is the next great legal obligation after the people.

“Capital” is a term to describe the tribal government’s access to investment income, tax revenue, enterprise income, and debt financing. Most vital to each of these is the ability to leverage these forms of capital to maximize earnings. It is essential that the tribal government educate their citizens on the importance of retaining earnings

for future investment, and the folly that is the present day “per capita payment” practices. Dependence on federal funding should be distrusted and good credit coveted.

Investment income should originate from a formula of safety and growth with quantifiable risk. If any investments are equities, they should be liquid and publically held, or in a businesses in which the tribe can acquire the majority interest, preferably tribal vendors. Any tribal investment held by the Albuquerque Investment Office of the B.I.A. should be taken out in trust and placed in an FDIC insured depository trust.

Tax revenue should be based on statutory rates set by tribal law. Tribal enterprise should be concentrated in goods and services operated with an emphasis on creating multiple “turns” of each dollar of tribal payroll and vendor purchases within the tribal economy. Enterprise income should be directed towards vertical or horizontal integration of existing tribal business and tailored to both internal and external marketing opportunities.

A good example is the creation of a tribal enterprise to repair its own casino chairs, slot machines, and other gaming equipment, a necessary, captive business that

has inherent demand. Another ideal investment is in tribal utility infrastructure that will provide access to federal funds for construction, enhancing return on investment and tribal independence from federal or state sources.

Debt financing should only be used to augment tribal investment with declining vendor equity given to allow full utilization of the depreciation tax credit to lower interest rates for the tribe. Debt to income ratios must stay within very reasonable and conservative limits, lower than in the private sector. Tribes are not in a safe place in history. Abuse of the plenary power of Congress is a real threat that grows each year as the perception of tribal success – and lack of institutional memory - speeds misguided political zealots towards racial classification and “means testing” for treaty- based federal funds and services for Indian people. No tribe is truly sovereign if it is financially dependent on another government.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Tribal Chairman. Tomorrow we cut the ribbon on the new “Corner Store”! Come see us!

Migwetch,

John Barrett-- Keweoge (He Leads Them Home)

Vice Chairman—Linda Capps



I want a CPN Heritage Festival Annual Bicycle Ride

The title of this article is actually the heading of a signature form that was forwarded to the Vice Chairman’s office at the close of the 2013 Festival. It contains approximately 120 signatures of tribal members and their spouses requesting that CPN add a bicycle ride to the list of events held

during festival.

The form includes the following reasons for promoting bicycling:

- 1) Health
- 2) Fitness
- 3) Ecological purposes
- 4) Economical purposes
- 5) Social interaction

The proposed event would not be a race, but a social occasion to promote a healthy lifestyle among tribal members. The signature form includes a proposal for the following categories of events:

- 1) 3-mile family bicycle ride
- 2) 15-mile intermediate ride
- 3) 50-mile advanced ride.

I applaud the efforts of those

who prepared and circulated the forms. They are convinced that the new event would be a popular one. Most of the signatures are understandably from Oklahoma; however, there are a few from Texas, Kansas, Missouri and even one from Oregon.

One thing for sure, bicycling is a good activity. It can be done by people of all ages; from childhood through adult years. It is a proven stress reliever and it offers increases in cardiovascular fitness, strength, balance and flexibility, endurance and stamina, and burned calories. In addition, many people find it to be a lot of fun!

Those who advocate bicycling also tout the fact that riding does not harm the environment. There is no polluting from exhaust and it is a great choice economically.

Riding is also neighbor friendly... you can waive to people as you pass them on the street or in the park. You can speak to children playing in their yards. Positive feedback on bicycling is very easy to obtain.

It is not quite as easy to assess a successful outcome for bicycling at the festival. I must admit that I have some concerns of which the main one is safety. CPN officials must always be cognizant of the safety of our people during special events. Sponsoring these events places liability on the Nation. Logistics for bicycle riding might also be a problem. Finding an adequate route to insure the safety of up to 50 or more riders could be a challenge. All of this will have to be researched prior to a commitment to have the bicycle ride.

Let me assure those who signed the signature form that our festival committee will give generous consideration to your wishes. The hot Oklahoma weather during the last weekend in June would certainly dictate the time of day for the family event; therefore, an early morning start is a given. The other two categories would take the most research. Please watch the Hownikan for additional information in regard to the bicycle ride event at our annual festival.

I hope the end of your summer is going well. As usual, I cherish the opportunity to serve as your Vice Chairman.

Migwetch,

Linda Capps

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Program Receives Accreditation

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s clinics, after a review from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Healthcare, have received zero deficiencies for its health care programs and earned accreditation. The audits, self-imposed by health providers, seek to identify areas of their services that need improvement.

“We are very pleased with the hard work and dedication of our employees of CPN Health Programs,” said CPN

Chairman John Barrett. “This accreditation and audit show that we are providing the very best health care possible to our tribal members. We should all be very proud of the employees and health care providers for our Nation.”

The survey was requested by CPN to review the entire organization to help build on the strengths and identify the opportunities to improve the delivery of health care.

The clinicians and support personnel comprising the CPNHS staff share the goal of eliminating the health status disparities which exist between American Indians and the general population of the United States, and focus on eliminating long-standing access barriers to health and human services experienced by the majority of Native Americans residing in central Oklahoma.

“We always request that our

services be reviewed so that we can maintain our accreditation, but the most important thing really is that we’re providing the best care possible for our patients,” said director of health services Tim Tall Chief. “We are very proud of our employees and providers who work hard to make sure our patients are treated well and get the quality health care they need and deserve.”

The survey was conducted in May and evaluated CPN’s

compliance with AAAHC standards for ambulatory health care to determine if accreditation should be awarded or retained. With an emphasis on education and consultation, the purpose of accreditation is to improve the quality of health care delivered by CPN.

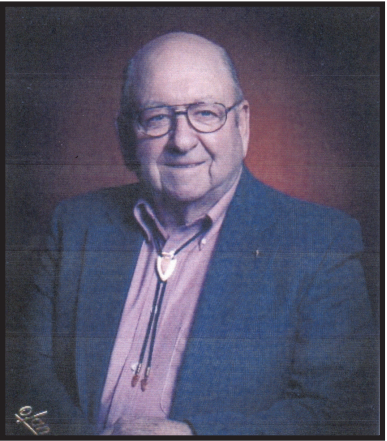
NOTICE TO ALL CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION ALLOTMENT INTEREST OWNERS.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation is interested with speaking to anyone who owns interest in a CPN allotment and would consider selling it to the Tribe. CPN is interested in purchasing this land to further enhance tribal programs and aid in the expansion of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. It will also help to promote self-governance and reduce or stop further fractionation in Indian trust and restricted land. Furthermore, it helps keep allotment land, and the interests therein, in the ownership of the Tribe on behalf of tribal members. If you are willing to discuss this issue further, or if you have any questions, please contact Robby Jack at (405) 395-0113.

ATTENTION ALL CPN MEMBERS OUTSIDE OF OKLAHOMA!

Do you know of tribal members in the states outside of Oklahoma who participate in traditional Native American dancing? If so, we want to know about you and your activities. Please get in contact with us by writing to hownikan@potawatomi.org

Walking On...



David Frank Adams

David Frank Adams, 90, formerly of Liberal, Mo., passed away on July 13, 2013, at Barton County Memorial Hospital, in Lamar. He had resided at Truman Healthcare Center in Lamar since June 2010. Frank was born on Feb. 1, 1923, at Liberal, Mo., to Timothy Keller Adams and Flora D. Ziegler Adams.

Frank grew up in the rural Liberal and Bronaugh areas with his four brothers and three sisters and graduated from Bronaugh High School in 1940. On April 15, 1944, he married his high school sweetheart, Norma Elizabeth Whiteside, at Fort Scott, Kan. On Dec. 16, 1946, their only child, Patty Sue, was born. Patty was killed in an auto accident on Dec. 4, 1961. Her death devastated Frank and Norma, but their strong faith carried them through 57 loving years of marriage until Norma's death on July 8, 2001.

From his maternal side he was of American Indian heritage and was a tribal member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Shawnee, Okla. His maternal grandmother was Mary Eleanore Bourassa Ziegler, daughter of Jude W. Bourassa.

Frank was a veteran of World War II, serving in the United States Navy from May 26, 1944, to Jan. 19, 1946, as a radar man and mail clerk aboard the Navy ship LST 244. His ship was involved in the invasions of the Philippines, Leyte Island, and Okinawa.

After returning from the service, Frank worked as a farmer, carpenter, truck driver, and school bus driver in the Bronaugh area. In 1961, Frank and Norma purchased the Liberal lumber yard where they worked side by side for 27 years. They sold the lumber yard in 1988 and retired.

Frank loved the Liberal and Bronaugh areas and was very active in community affairs, serving on the Liberal city council several years and as mayor two years. He was an active member of the United Methodist Church of Liberal. Other memberships and interests were VFW, Masonic Lodge, Shrine, Lions Club, and Senior Center. He was someone others could call on when help was needed.

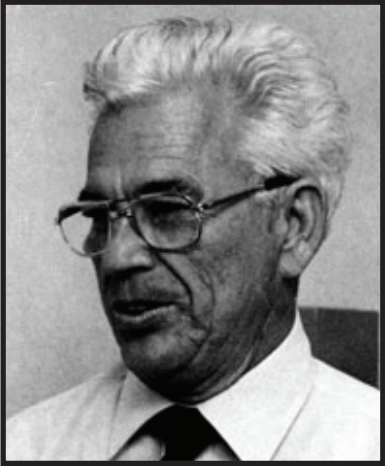
In addition to his parents, wife, and daughter, Frank was preceded in death by four brothers, Paul Ziegler Adams and wife, Mary Genevieve, Gilbert Orval Adams and wife, Erma Eileen, Lewis Bourassa Adams and wife, Marie Juanita, and Clarence Kermi Adams and wife, Viola Lea; three sisters, Alice Veva Twigg and husband, John Wayne, Mary Elois Adams, and Violet Pearl Campbell and husband, Melvin George; two nieces, Wanda June Adams and Alois Mary Twigg Potter; one nephew, John Wayne Twigg Jr.; and brother-in-law, Adhn Lee Whiteside.

He is survived by 10 nieces, Vera Joan Imel, Mary Elaine Shindler, Janice Kay Almquist, Elizabeth Ann Bigler, Karmin Jean McCrory, Lois Dianne Richardson, Barbara Jean Pierce, Sharon Kay Schaeffer, Viola Mae Wilson, and Rama Faye Hart; 14 nephews, Donald Allen Adams, Charles Lewis Adams, Leonard Ray Adams, Jack Lee Adams, Harold Alvin Twigg, Frank Adams Twigg, Hubert Lee Adams, Paul Leroy Adams, Joe Eugene Adams, Donald Dean Adams, Melvin Keith Campbell, Larry Lee Whiteside, James Alan Whiteside, and Terry Lynn Whiteside; sister-in-law, Luetta Whiteside; special friends, Mark and Carol Abts; numerous great-nieces and great-nephews; and many, many friends.

Memorial contributions may be made to the United Methodist Church of Liberal, Worsley

Cemetery, and Liberal Senior Center in care of Konantz-Warden Funeral Home.

Services, including Masonic rites, will be Wednesday at 10 a.m., with visitation beginning at 9 a.m., at Konantz-Warden Funeral Home, 1301 Gulf St., Lamar. Interment will follow at Worsley Cemetery, Bronaugh, Mo.



Dr. Duward Earl Newsom

Dr. D. (Durward) Earl Newsom, age 94, of Stillwater, passed away on May 15, 2013, after a long battle with cancer. Earl was best known as a writer and historian, but he was honored for many other achievements during his long career.

Earl was born on Jan. 9, 1919, to Jessie Earl and Ruth Louise Newsom in Drumright, attended Drumright High School and graduated in 1936. Earl began his journalism career at this time, when his high school journalism teacher, who was part owner of the Drumright Journal, employed Earl as a reporter and sports writer when he was only 16. Earl remained with the Journal for four years after graduation, becoming editor and then manager.

During World War II, Earl enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve, achieved the rank of Petty Officer First Class and was stationed at El Paso, Texas, and Treasure Island, Calif. After the war, U.S. Congressman Lyle H. Boren selected Earl as his chief administrative aide in Washington D.C. After 18 months, Earl resigned from the Congressman's staff to pursue his bachelor's degree.

In 1948, Earl received his bachelor's degree in journalism and business from Oklahoma A&M College. He was named outstanding graduate for scholarship in journalism and chosen for membership in Phi Kappa Phi, an honorary scholarship fraternity. While at Oklahoma A&M, Earl was the commercial manager of radio station KSPI. Earl then pursued a masters of science degree in journalism at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. Upon graduation in 1949, Earl received the Harrington Memorial Award as the outstanding student in his graduate sequence. Earl taught journalism at Texas A&M College from 1949 until 1954. In 1952 he received the Battalion Award for "teaching that requires maximum effort and at the same time maintains the students' friendship and respect." During summers, he worked at the Stillwater NewsPress, filling in for vacationing staff members.

In 1954, Earl left Texas A&M to pursue a doctorate in education at Oklahoma State University. Upon graduation, he joined the Lamar, Colo., Daily News as managing editor. In the fall of 1957, Earl accepted a position as a professor of journalism at the University of Maryland. In 1975, the Maryland yearbook, The Terrapin, was dedicated to him, and in 1971, he received an award for Distinguished Service to the Press from the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association. While at Maryland, he worked part-time on the Washington Star copy desk, and wrote a monthly column for the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association newspaper. Earl retired from the University of Maryland in 1979.

After retiring from the University of Maryland, Earl was chosen by the National Newspaper Association to compile a book updating the community on the newspaper business. At the age of 62, Earl wrote his first book, titled "The Newspaper, Everything You Need to Know to Make It in the Newspaper Business," which was published in 1981 by

Prentice-Hall.

Earl returned to Stillwater and authored nine books on the history of Stillwater, Payne County and Oklahoma. These include two volumes on the Drumright oilfield, a history of the Cherokee Strip; Stillwater: One Hundred Years of Memories (1989) which was written for the Land Run Centennial; and Stillwater: A Cradle of Oklahoma History (2007) which was written for the Oklahoma Centennial. His special historical articles have appeared in the Stillwater NewsPress and The Chronicles of Oklahoma. Earl worked closely with the Oklahoma Press Association and conducted extensive research into local histories. His extensive collections of writings, papers and photographs were donated to the OSU Library Special Collections, the Sheerar Museum and the Drumright Oil Field Museum. Earl maintained an office at 408 S. Main for more than 30 years. For many years, he was a member of the Stillwater Toastmasters Club, and was its president in 1984. Dr. Newsom was predeceased by his parents, two brothers, Roy Ray and Coy Lee, and his sister, Neva Mary. Survivors include his sister, Bernice May, of Oklahoma City, nieces and nephews in Calif., Tenn., Ga., and Saumur, France.

At Earl's request, no services are to be held, but rather Earl requested any gifts or donations be made to The Oklahoma League For The Blind.

Dr D. Earl Newsom's published body of books:

The Newspaper, Everything You Need to Know to Make It in the Newspaper Business (1981)

Kicking Bird and the Birth of Oklahoma (1983)

Drumright! The Glory Days of a Boom Town (1985)

Drumright II – A Thousand Memories (1987)

Stillwater: One Hundred Years of Memories (1989)

The Cherokee Strip: Its History and Grand Opening (1992)

The Story of Exciting Payne County (1997)

Hilarious History: The Funniest True Stories and Legends of Stillwater and Payne County (1999)

Stillwater History: The Missing Links (2000)

Stillwater: A Cradle of Oklahoma History (2007) - See more at: <http://www.stwnewspress.com/obituaries/x1374700129/Dr-Durward-Earl-Newsom#sthash.CQAJLbmA.dpuf>



Katherine Lynn Duvall-Arnaud

Katherine "Kathy" Lynn Duvall-Arnaud of Sparks, Oklahoma passed away July 12, 2013. She was 48 years old.

Kathy was born on December 8, 1964 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the daughter of Dennis and Karla (Cannon-Matthews) Duvall. Kathy and her family moved from Oklahoma and traveled to many places, but spent most of her life in Alaska. She graduated from Bartlett High School in Anchorage, Alaska. In 2000, she moved to the Prague, Oklahoma area.

Kathy enjoyed the many times spent with her family and friends, especially her brother, Jeff. Kathy battled cancer for many, many years and on Friday, July 12, 2013, she passed away with her mother, Karla, and her brother, Jeff, by her side.

Kathy is preceded in death by her daughter, Amanda K. Arnaud, her grandparents, Jack and Thelma Cannon, Aunt Carolyn Nowlin,

and grandmother, Fern Duvall.

Those left to cherish her memory include: her mother, Karla Cannon-Matthews and step-father, Robert Matthews of Sparks, Oklahoma; her big brother, Jeff Rosamond of Sparks, Oklahoma; Aunt Betty Black of Shawnee, Oklahoma; Uncle Bob Cannon of Shawnee, Oklahoma; her father, Dennis Duvall. One step-brother, several step-sisters, as well as a host of nieces and nephews, cousins and many friends. There was never a person who met Kathy who didn't absolutely love her.

Memorial services for Kathy will be held at 2:00 P.M., Thursday, July 18, 2013, at Resthaven Funeral Home Chapel in Shawnee.



Robert Earl Steele

Robert (Bob) Earl Steele, 76, a lifetime resident of Pasco, Wash. died on August 18, 2013. Bob was born July 29, 1937 to Earl and Luella (Patton) Steele. He attended Pasco High School and went on to Columbia Basin College on a football scholarship.

Bob loved hunting, fishing, guns, and fast cars. He served 28 years in the military. He was a loving and caring man and will be missed by all. He was preceded in death by his mother and father and brother-in-law Bill Ziegler.

He is survived by his wife Joyce of 49 years, daughter Tammy (Fred) Chavallo, grandchildren Chanel and Jordan. Sister Karen (Lynn) Blair, brother-in-law Glen (Connie) Coppersmith, sister-in-law Patsy Ziegler, many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and lifelong friends.

Bob was active in the following organizations:

Past Master & Life Member; Pasco Masonic Lodge # 173

Past Masters club

Hiram Award

Life Member; Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Valley of Kennewick

Life Member: The Royal Order of Scotland

Life Member: Thistle Clan, Royal Order of Scotland

Charter Member & Life Member: Masada Shrine Temple and Honorary Member: Afifi Shrine Temple

Columbia Basin Shrine Club

Past Patron & Life Member: Beulah Chapter # 132, Order of Eastern Star

Past Rainbow Dad of Pasco Order of Rainbow for Girls

Grand Cross of Colors

Life Member: Artemisia Court #64 Order of Amaranth

Life Member: Past High Priest, Pasco Chapter # 33 Royal Arch

Bronze Award from General Grand Chapter

Order of High Priesthood

Life Member: Past Illustrious Master Zadok Council # 23 Royal & Select Masters

Order of Silver Trowel

Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of Grand Council of Royal & Select Master in WA

Life Member: Past Commander Pasco Commandery # 21 Knights Templar

Ruben Baer Past Commanders

Grand Masters Club, Knight Templar Eye Foundation

Life Member: Knight York Cross of Honor

Life Member: Allied Masonic Degrees Council # 46

Life Member: Kamiakin York Rite College # 28

York Rite Sovereign College Gold Award

Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priest

St. Raphael Red Cross of Constantine

Grand Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill

Pasco DeMolay chapter # 888 Past Member & Past Dad Advisor

Life Member: DeMolay Legion of Honor

Life and Endowment Member: National Rifle Association of America

Retired Army

Owner of a 1956 Thunderbird & Member: Classic International Thunderbird Club

Franklin County Historical Society in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska.



Ronnie Smith

Ronnie D. Smith, 73, of Apison, TN passed away Monday, July 8, 2013.

Ronnie was born July 22, 1939, in Oklahoma City, OK to Perry and Sadie Smith and was a proud member of the Citizen Band Potawatomi Nation.

He graduated in 1958 from Capital Hill High School in Oklahoma City where his main interest was vocational education, receiving training in off set printing classes. After high school, Ron was drafted by the Army and served as a medic in Chinon, France. He also served in the 244 Evacuation Reserve during the Cuban missile crisis in Ft. Hood, TX.

After returning home, Ron wanted to further his education in the Graphic Arts industry, so he enrolled in classes at Southern Missionary College, while working at the College Press. He continued his education in Graphic Arts, earning his teaching certificate at the University of Tennessee.

Ron taught Graphic Arts at Sequoyah Vocation Center and Harrison Bay Vocational Center until his retirement in 2001.

Ron returned to Southern Adventist University, serving as an adjunct professor and taught Graphic Production classes for students in the Visual Arts and Design, Mass Communication and Journalism programs. He loved working with the students and looked forward to it each year.

He was a member of the Ooltewah Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Ron was preceded in death by his twin brother Donnie Gean Smith, his father, Perry A. Smith and his mother, Sadie E. Smith.

He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Barbara Pace Smith, his two sons, Roger and Randy, of Apison. His sister Patsy Smith Brownfield of Maud, OK and brother Lynn Smith of Moore, OK.

Family will receive friends on Saturday, July 13, 2013 from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. at the fellowship hall of the Ooltewah Seventh-day Adventist church and a memorial service will follow. Ooltewah SDA church located at 9209 Amos Rd., Ooltewah, TN 37363.

Flowers may be sent to the church. Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Ronnie D. Smith, Worthy Student Endowment Fund, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, or to the Samaritan Center, 9231 Lee Highway, Ooltewah, TN 37363.